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Ann Arbor Observer

May 2012

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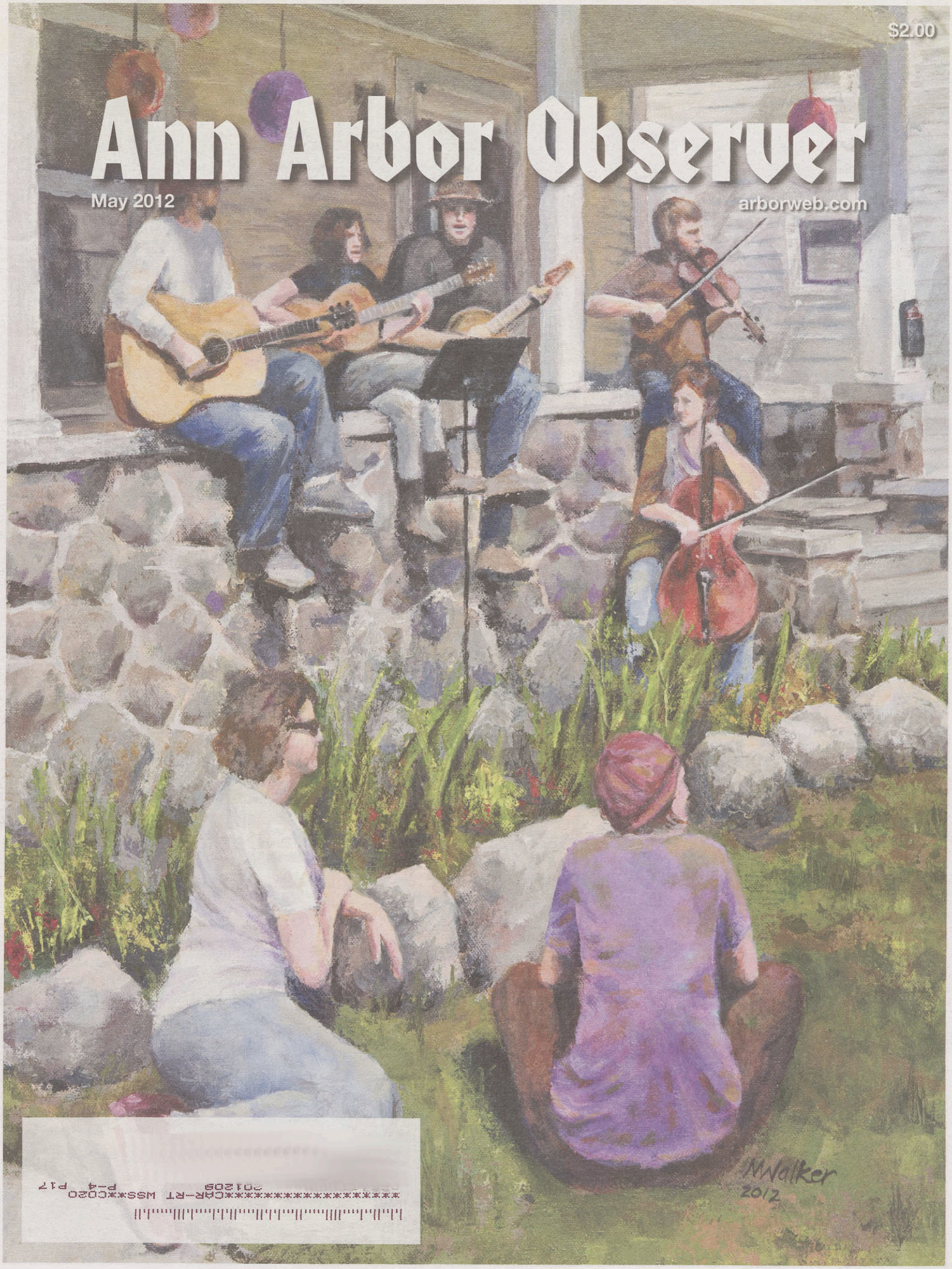

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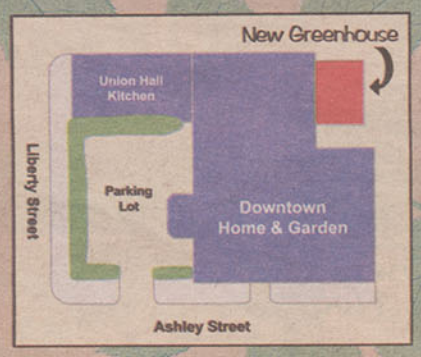

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AAPS is accepting enrollment applications for students living in Washtenaw County who wish to attend Ann Arbor Public Schools.

Applications accepted until May 16 for the 2012/2013 school year.

Washtenaw County residents are invited to submit enrollment applications for their incoming Kindergarten, 1st and 6th grade students through the AAPS Schools of Choice program. *Limited seats are also available for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders.*

Elementary Schools of Choice: Abbot, Bryant, Carpenter, Dicken, Eberwhite, Lakewood, Logan, Northside, Pittsfield, Pattengill and Thurston.

Middle Schools of Choice: Clague, Forsythe, Scarlett and Slauson.

All applications must be received by May 16.

Applications are available online at www.a2schools.org or at the Ann Arbor Public Schools Administration Office, 2555 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 or call 994-2200.

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Poster Family: In January, Ann Arbor teacher Peter Ways, local therapist Joe Breakey, and their daughter, Aliza Breakey-Ways, became a poster family for domestic partner benefits. The ACLU is representing them and three other Michigan couples (including another from Ann Arbor, Theresa Bassett and Carol Kennedy) in a suit challenging a new state law that restricts public employee benefits to married couples.

The parties will file written responses to one another's arguments this month, and the case isn't expected to be decided before August. To the couple's relief, neither they nor Aliza have experienced any harassment, and the Ann Arbor community has rallied behind them, including Aliza's classmates and teachers at Eberwhite. Still, "part of me is a little nervous about being in the limelight," says Breakey. "Part of me feels empowered." Says Ways, "It's a harsh reality to face, that somebody would really pass a law against you."

Abandoned bike blues: "I bike every day if it's a nice day," says Marilee Sturtevant, manager of the Red Hawk Bar & Grill on State St. "I need a place to park my bike, and the nice thing about the Maynard St. parking structure and the bike rack across the street is that they're covered so your bike doesn't get wet."

But in the last year and a half, she says, so many bikes have been abandoned in the structure that "there're hardly any spaces left. And across the street from the structure, there's only one spot left." These aren't good, usable bikes left behind by some absent-minded student. "A lot are damaged, the wheels bent or parts missing. And they're like this all over town, some chained on trees, but mostly on the regular bike racks."

Things are going to improve, promises senior assistant city attorney Kristen Larcom. The police used to take care of abandoned bikes, she explains, but with staff cutbacks, "they don't have the people to send out anymore." Another problem: the city no longer requires licenses for bikes, so there's no way to notify the owners. But, Larcom promises, "in the next month or so we'll have a system in place that will work just as well as it used to."

One-termer: "I think every teachers' union in the state wishes they had" a contract like Ann Arbor's, says Forsythe science teacher Dan Ezekiel. Negotiated two years ago, it called for small, temporary pay cuts and promised teachers more money if the district's fund balance—decimated in recent years by reduced state appropriations—improved. Even so, in late March union members turned out the president who negotiated the contract, Forsythe math teacher Brit Satchwell, in favor of former president Linda Carter.

Satchwell attributes his narrow (twenty-four-vote) defeat in part to Carter's campaigning much harder than he did. "I'm a political animal but not much of a politician," he admits. One veteran teacher speculates that teachers may have missed Carter's more personal touch. "My skills set tends to be getting out face to face," says Carter. In her previous terms, "I was out every day at buildings."

Satchwell admits he's disappointed but says he won't miss the job's frustrations. "Getting funded by the state is still like dancing with a large unpredictable drunk," he emails. There's "no telling which way they will lurch on a moment's notice."

You are what you read: Since John Weise and Stephanie Bentley started selling books, CDs, and DVDs on consignment almost seven years ago, they've processed more than 400,000 items, about 85 percent of them books.

"One thing that's always fascinated me is that most books that come through here we've never seen before," says Weise, who oversees inventory and order fulfillment for their business on South Industrial, Books by Chance. For example, 86 percent of the books they took in last year were new to their experience. "There's a relatively small number of authors we see a lot, and then this really long tail of everything else."

Authors they see a lot of include John Grisham, Stephen King, and Shakespeare. Examples of "everything else" include *Pediatric Anesthesia, Pioneers of Soviet Architecture, Encyclopedia of Monasticism, Speeches of Henry Lord Brougham* (four volumes, bound in leather), and enlarged addenda and corrigenda to the supplement of an Anglo-Saxon dictionary—each of which sold for at least $150.

Huff and puff: While a tornado was destroying homes in Dexter on March 15, builder Ken Trever and a worker were just a few miles away, in the garage of an unfinished home in the Polo Fields subdivision. When the worker's wife called anxiously to check on him, he told her he'd be fine: the garage—in fact, the entire house—was built of concrete.

Trever, sixty-three, has been a builder for forty-one years. But he says he had a revelation on a very cold day twenty years ago, when he touched the foundation of a home he was building and realized it felt warm: he'd built it using insulating concrete forms (ICF), hollow foam blocks into which concrete is poured. For the last dozen years, he's been building entire homes from ICF. "My whole house [in Milford] is made of concrete, every level, including the garage," he says. "It's mold, insect, sound, and tornado proof."

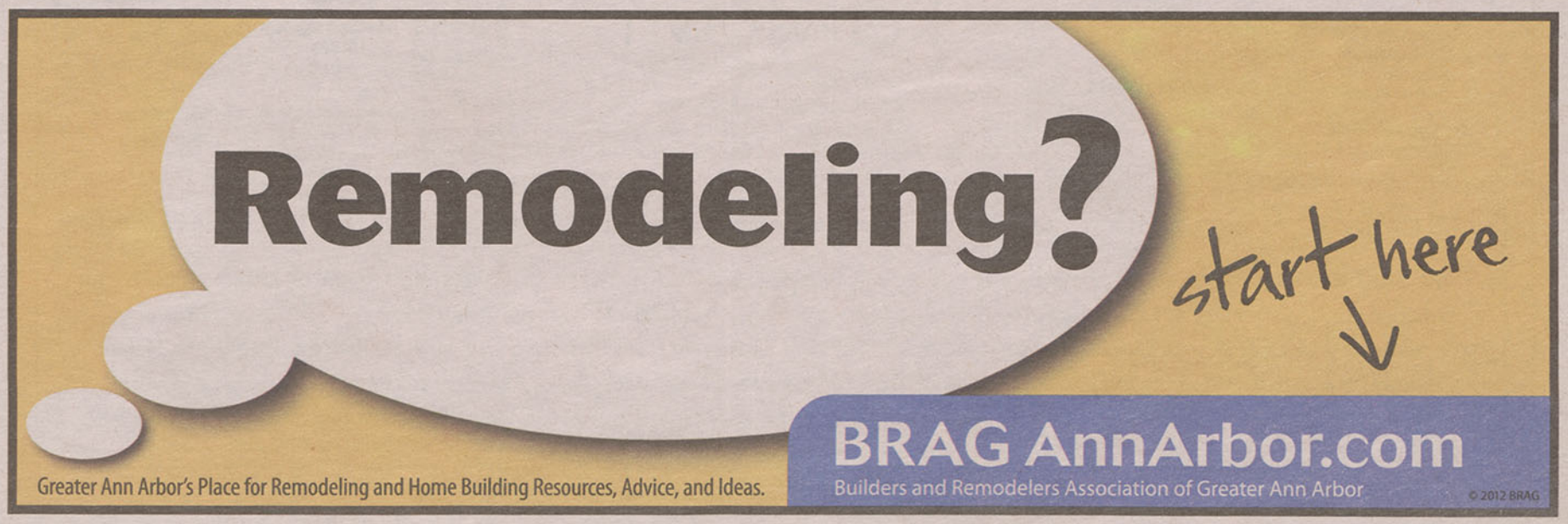
Since the Dexter tornado, Trever says, he's heard from dozens of potential clients who mentioned the storms here and in the Midwest. He figures the 6,000-square-foot Polo Fields house contains "a couple of hundred yards of concrete, give or take a few yards," and can withstand winds up to 220 mph. Trever says the walls cost only about 10 percent more than the heavy-duty wood framing he previously used—his homes start at around $400,000—but afterthoughts do cost extra. Cutting one additional window through the six-inch concrete walls of the Polo Fields house, he says, "took us about a day."

Bagels to bread: Ten years ago, when Zingerman's first started giving away a half-dozen "birthday bagels," only about twenty-five people picked them up. By last year, word of the freebie had spread, and close to 2,000 people claimed the treat at Zing's southside Bakehouse. Free-bagel bliss ended this year. Bakehouse patrons can now pick out a free loaf of bread, up to $6.25 in value, with any purchase (even a single cookie or bagel) on their birthdays.

"When we close at seven, I don't want to have any bagels left over," explains Frank Carollo, the Bakehouse's managing partner. "To me, they're a morning thing." Yet customers would show up at 3 or 4 in the afternoon, wanting bagels for evening or even day-after-birthday bashes. "We have a better ability not to disappoint people by allowing them to choose a free loaf of bread."

At the nearby Zingerman's Creamery, too, customers now must buy something to receive a free birthday gelato. At the original Deli downtown, the free bagels have been replaced by a 15 percent birthday discount. Customers will need to spend at least $55 on pastrami sandwiches or brownies to equal the $8 value the six free bagels provided.

Carollo expects Zing's birthday treats will change again—and in less than another ten years. "We want to keep the shopping experience and our world fresh," he says. ■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French Crêpes with Brigitte Romero

Tues, May 29th —11 to 1
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Elephant Ears, Saturday, May 19th, 10am

Baby Stroller and Travel System Demonstration With Matthew Cyrulnik at Elephant Ears. Expecting parents and parents of young children will learn how to choose the right stroller for their lifestyle. Stroller folding and storage and how strollers work with infant car seats will be demonstrated. Also featuring outdoor adventure systems for Running, Biking, and Cross Country Skiing.

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Arcade TV

"I haven't had to make one call to the police since [the cameras] were installed," says Hank Schoch.

Schoch, of Van Boven clothing on State St. has worked in the campus business district for nearly forty years. Last November, he sent a sorrowful letter to the city. "[B]ecause of the reduced number of Police Officers, neighborhood patrols have been terminated," he wrote. "That situation has allowed panhandlers to act with impunity. Others urinate, smoke marijuana and drink alcohol within the confines of Nickels Arcade itself … this once vibrant business area in Ann Arbor has become, for lack of a better word, 'Seedy.' "

"Seven or eight years ago it got really bad—panhandlers, general vagrant types," says Mike Savitski, whose graphic design firm is on the second floor of the Arcade. It's gotten bad again recently, he thinks, because "people have fallen on hard times." The river of students flowing to and from the Diag—"well-meaning, good-hearted young people with money in their pockets"—draws both homeless people and professional panhandlers to the Arcade.

So at the end of March, Ron White, whose Arch Realty manages the Arcade, installed five video cameras. High up, two barely readable signs advise: "Warning. All activities are recorded on video tape to aid in the prosecution of any crime committed against this facility."

Schoch says he has already gotten complaints from some regulars—regular vagrants, not regular customers—that "big brother is watching." But the cameras seem to be working the magic the retailers had hoped for: Schoch says that even Hash Bash went off without a hitch.

Savitski says if he had a magic wand, he would fill the storefronts left vacant by the closing of Borders and Michigan Book & Supply. He thinks that the neglected stretches are encouraging the uptick in aggressive panhandling. But he also is quick to talk about what he loves about the Arcade. He calls the almost century-old, glass-roofed corridor connecting State and Maynard "a slice of Paris, Milan, Vienna, right here in Ann Arbor."

AAPD officer Kevin Warner, who was walking through the Arcade at lunchtime recently, used to be one of the downtown beat cops. Though he now covers a much larger area, Warner says he still knows all the Arcade shopkeepers and has given many of them his cell phone number.

With summer coming, Warner is glad the cameras are in place. "When the temperatures are in the seventies, eighties, and nineties, we're slammed," he says. "More people out on the streets, more people consuming alcohol ..." Stay tuned.

MARK BIALEK

Designer Mike Savitski (left) thinks panhandling in the State St. business district grew worse because "people have fallen on hard times." Last fall, his Nickels Arcade neighbor, Hank Schoch, wrote a letter to the city warning that the area was getting "seedy." But after the Arcade's managers installed five video cameras in late March, Schoch says, even Hash Bash went off without a hitch.

Lonely Millage

The AAPS seeks funds for computers and connections.

"The problem now is with our software upgrades," says Ann Arbor Public Schools spokeswoman Liz Margolis. "These computers don't support the new software."

The AAPS has 8,000 or so computers, mostly Apple Macs. Students use them for everything from reading programs in elementary school to sophisticated research projects in high school. Now, however, a change Apple made six years ago is catching up with the district. The current versions of Microsoft Word and Excel, among others, won't run on Macs built before 2006.

In January 2011, says schools spokeswoman Liz Margolis, so many students returned from Christmas break carrying a new "hand-held something" that "the infrastructure to support the wireless [network] was overloaded." The strain crashed the district's public WiFi network.

If voters approve a $45.8 million, ten-year technology bond on the May 8 ballot, most of the money will be spent in three phases to replace outdated computers and other classroom technology. Almost all of the rest will finance urgent upgrades to the infrastructure that connects them to one other and to the Internet.

Apple shares the blame for that problem, too: in January 2011, Margolis says, so many students returned from Christmas break carrying a new "hand-held something" that "the infrastructure to support the wireless [network] was overloaded." The strain of supporting so many iPhones and iPads crashed the district's public WiFi network. "It took perhaps a few weeks to reach a temporary solution, which is still in place."

With nothing else on the ballot except a special county commission election in Pittsfield's District 7, volunteers on the Ann Arbor Citizens Millage Committee know that they have to make their case to the small number of voters who are likely to turn out. AACMC leader Donna Lasinski says that apart from a mailing or two, committee members are focusing their efforts on PTO meetings, where they're explaining the millage and encouraging parents to vote.

The half-mill tax would cost the owner of a typical $200,000 house $50 per year. Some of the improvements are so essential that the district will go ahead with them even if the millage fails, says Margolis. But then "the dollars will have to come out of the general operating fund … [which] will have direct impact on the delivery of curriculum to students." The district is already anticipating a $16 million shortfall in the upcoming fiscal year, with modest growth in state funding more than offset by higher contributions to the state teacher pension system.

In healthier economic times the AACMC might already be planning its victory night party. But in a state still waking from its economic nightmare, says outgoing teachers union president Brit Satchwell, "I think it will be tight."

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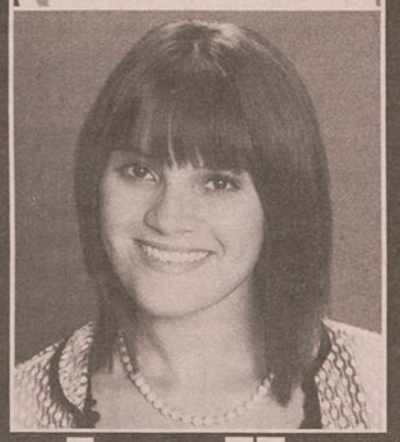

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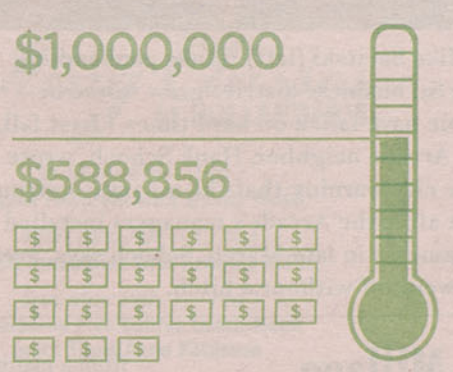

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- Attend our Top of the Park Teacher Appreciation Event on June 19 from 6-9pm at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival.
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Planning or Prejudice?

"We just want to build a nice school," says Tarek Nahlawi.

Nahlawi is a board member of the Michigan Islamic Academy, located on Plymouth Rd. in Ann Arbor. MIA hopes to build a new school at the corner of Ellsworth and Golfside. But Pittsfield Township denied the needed rezoning—so MIA and the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) are suing the township in federal court.

Brothers Mohammad and Said Issa put together a group that bought the 26.7-acre property in foreclosure in 2010, and then donated it to the academy. Board member Nahlawi says they were "absolutely clear" with the township. "Before buying the property, we met with them [township officials] and explained our intentions. We wanted to build a school, and then a community center in a few years. And we asked them, 'What do we need to do, is there anything we need to do?'

"We talked to their legal counsel to find out what we had to do to get the rezoning [for the property]," Nahlawi continues. "They said if we meet all the requirements, then fine. We said, 'If there are any issues—traffic, anything you can think of—tell us, and we'll go somewhere else.'

"We met or exceeded the requirements. Whatever they wanted, we'd do. We moved the school from the back of the property to the front. We changed the lighting. We did an extended traffic study … We deserve to go there, and we need to know the reasons why they won't let us."

It's harder to get Pittsfield's side since they won't talk. Beyond noting that the township is diverse and includes the Jewel Heart Buddhist temple plus two Hindu centers, supervisor Mandy Grewal will say only that Pittsfield has a policy of not commenting on open litigation—which means she won't say anything for months.

The township planning commission opposed the rezoning based on the traffic the school would create. Neighbor and Ann Arbor developer Ed Shaffran says that was the right call. "I live on Golfside, and with the school that's there already [the charter school Fortis Academy], it's tough getting around. During the morning and afternoon school hours, it's pretty congested. You have to be cautious because people are parked all over the place. And when they have events there with four, five, six hundred kids and their families, it's impossible.

"I was at a couple of the public meetings," Shaffran adds, "and I made comments that referred to the township's master plan. Just recently, the board of trustees inked a two-year master plan [that] calls for the preservation of the existing housing stock. The property is zoned residential and it has been for eons, and they're asking it to be rezoned.

MARK BIALEK

MARK BIALEK

Michigan Islamic Academy board member Tarek Nahlawi with students at MIA's would-be school site at Ellsworth and Golfside.

"I applaud the township's decision because I want it to remain housing," Shaffran concludes. "In my opinion, the township has listened to the will of the people and is standing behind their master plan."

Lena Masri, the CAIR attorney handling the case, says residential development under the present zoning could bring in more traffic than the school would. And she believes a law passed in 2000 trumps Pittsfield's master plan: "The federal Religious Institutions Land Use Protection Act says that a zoning commission cannot deny based on technical reasons alone, that if a religious institution is qualified, rezoning cannot be denied unless there's a compelling governmental reason," she says.

Masri says her organization got involved because "we were concerned about the bias and hostility shown at the public meetings. We were concerned that the township's decision to deny was based on religious discrimination and ethnic bias."

That's a serious charge, and it won't be settled soon—"it could be years" before the suit is resolved, Masri says. "And the Department of Justice has launched an investigation as well, so we're dependent to a certain extent on that."

What does the MIA want? "Just a school," replies Masri. "No mosque. The original plan was for a community center and a school, but now, just a school."

The Bees Sneeze

An early spring endangers local bees and fruit trees.

Richard Mendel, ad hoc coordinator of Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers, was on the phone a lot in March, giving advice to local beekeepers dealing with a lot of confused bees. Most of the region's bees emerged from their hives two or three weeks earlier than normal, enticed by springlike weather early in the month—so early that there were not yet enough blossoms to make foraging worth their while. Forced to live on food stored from last year, many hives experienced a shortage when temperatures dropped back into the thirties and forties. Most bees cannot leave the hive at those low temperatures, so even though by that time there was plenty of food outside, they were in danger of starvation.

"This is a touchy time," said Mendel in late March. "Right now it's a case of paying attention. If you just walk away and think your bees will be fine, you're going to get a surprise."

Beekeepers can add food—sugar granules or sugar water—to the top of the hive if necessary. But once the fragile cycle of bees and blooms gets out of sync—as it did this spring—it can mean a big setback, not just for bees, but for the fruit trees and other crops they pollinate.

"If we have a long spring now, with temperatures back in the forties or worse, and a lot of rain, [then] a lot of blossoms will be washed out of nectar or won't be generated at all," said Mendel. "If things don't go well [with the weather], everything could go sideways."

Beekeeping has always been a delicate business, totally dependent on—and

This year's very early spring confounded local honeybees—they emerged from their hives before there were enough blossoms for them to feed on.

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MARK BIALEK

HuffingtonPost.com has picked up stories by eight writers for the Community High *Communicator* (with teacher Tracy Anderson, right), including (foreground) editor Sarah Kerson and Eva Hattie Schueler. Seventy readers responded to Schueler's op-ed criticizing the casting of *The Hunger Games*.

vulnerable to—an interconnected chain of events in nature. But in recent years bee populations around the country also have been under stress from seemingly intractable threats like pesticides, disease, and "Colony Collapse Disorder," the puzzling phenomenon that causes the sudden loss of entire colonies. According to Mendel, a survey last year by the Southeastern Michigan Beekeepers Association revealed that beekeepers lose 24 percent of their bees each year—and that was before this year's weather problems. "Even some of the best beekeepers in the area are losing their hives, and it's hard to figure out why," Mendel says.

The early spring also caused a lot of buzz at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market, because fruit trees were blooming a full month before the frost danger clears. Scott Robertello of Kapnick Orchards says a "freeze event" in late March that devastated Traverse City's tart cherry crop caused "very minimal damage" here, but he won't rest easy until around mid-May.

"The old-timers say a killing frost can happen till the first full moon after Easter, and that will be May sixth," Robertello says. Does he believe that? "Let's just say I'm keeping my fingers crossed."

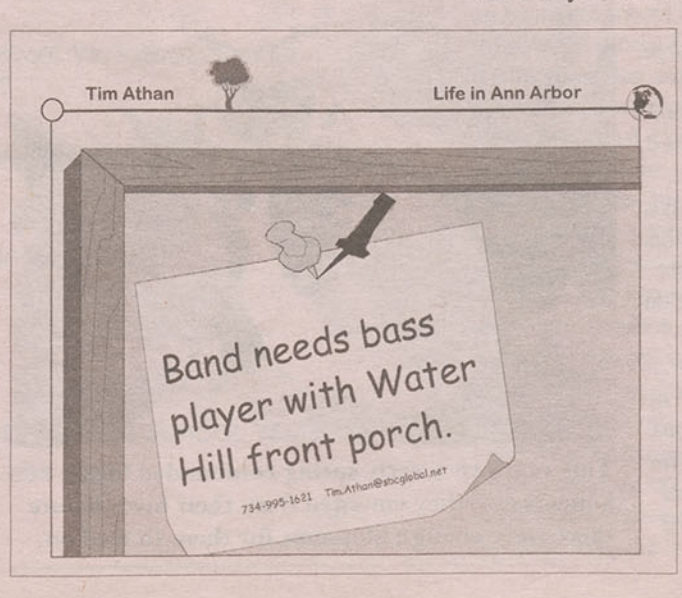
CHS on HuffPo

Local students join the blogosphere.

Like almost everybody else under age twenty, Eva Hattie Schueler has read the *Hunger Games* trilogy. "I read them all in the last three or four months," says the Community High School junior, "once all the way through, and then I went back and read the first two three times."

Schueler was eager to see the movie too—until she heard who was playing the teenage heroine. "I really love Jennifer Lawrence as actress, but she's white with blonde hair, and the character is supposed to have olive skin and dark hair. When I read the books, if I thought about it at all, I thought 'Oh, this character is a Native American.' "

A writer for *The Communicator*, Community High's student-run newspaper, Schueler wrote an op-ed piece on the subject. This attracted a degree of local notice—"people I didn't know told me it was well written"—and then national notice when HuffingtonPost.com called to ask if they could run the piece.



"They contacted our editors, and said, 'You're a good site, we'd like to put some of your stuff up on our site.' They were looking for edgy stuff for their teenage page, and this caught someone's eye," says Schueler. Before you could say "Katniss," her piece was a hit, relatively speaking.

"I got like seventy comments

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since it went up two weeks ago," Schueler said in April. "Some people thought I was attacking Jennifer Lawrence, which of course I wasn't. But a couple of people picked up on my point that the casting call was only for Caucasian girls, that it was always out of the question to cast an actress of color to get the role."

Schueler isn't the only *Communicator* writer on the Huffington Post site. "Other writers have gotten picked up, though not that often," says Sarah Kerson, a senior and an editor at the paper. "I've had two published on the Huffington Post."

Being picked up by the national website brought the students some fame, but it didn't make their fortunes. HuffPo *paid them exactly what the* Communicator *did: nothing.*

Evil Robot Wins Election!

"It's not every day you have an opportunity to hack a government computer without going to jail," says U-M prof Alex Halderman.

And it's not every day an academic paper makes news around the world. But the caper reported by Halderman and three U-M collaborators in February was irresistible: they'd elected Bender—the alcoholic, whoremongering, chain-smoking robot from the TV show *Futurama*—president of the Washington, D.C., school board.

The good news is it was only a test. The District's government was planning on using an online voting program in an actual 2010 school board election, and to demonstrate its invulnerability, they dared hackers to crack their system. Halderman, a youthful-looking U-M electrical engineering professor specializing in applied computer security, took the dare. He recruited grad students Scott Wolchok and Eric Wustrow and technical staffer Dawn Isabel to help. "All of them were instrumental in the success," he says. "I oversaw the project, but as always, it was the students who did all the work."

"We changed that [web voting] page so that after a fifteen-second delay it would play 'The Victors.'" says Halderman. "It took them two days to find it."

How'd they do it? "We found a way to create fake ballots that the system had to examine, and while it was doing so, we slipped a command onto their server to subvert their voting software. What we did was essentially take control of their server, and after that, we replaced all the

MARK BIALEK

MARK BIALEK

Eric Wustrow, Dawn Isabel, and Alex Halderman cracked an electronic voting system in Washington, D.C. They elected Bender, the *Futurama* robot, as school board president.

votes with ballots of our own choosing based on who we thought the computer would vote for if it was evil: Bender, for instance." Getting a fictional robot elected school board president wasn't all they did. "Internet security tends to be very brittle," says Halderman, "and once we got inside, we got a lot of access." They not only accessed every voter's past voting history but also made sure that in the future "everybody would be voting for our candidates no matter who they voted for."

Halderman and his team weren't the only ones trying to hack the system. "As far as I know there wasn't anyone else who tried to hack the system who was participating in the test. But we did notice other incoming attack attempts from China and Iran. These were not people trying to participate in the test, but real attackers." They shut out the bad guys by blocking the system's password.

The U-M team left a clue behind. "We could have made it invisible until they counted the vote and found the evil robot had won," says Halderman. "But there was not enough time before election for them to react, so we left a kind of a 'calling card' on the machine.

"The system had a final confirmation screen saying 'Thank you for voting,' and we changed that page so that after a fifteen-second delay it would play 'The Victors.' It took them two days to find it, and it was only because one of the testers wrote to tell them the system looks pretty good, but that the music at the end is pretty distracting."

When the D.C. government found out, they called in Halderman's team for a debriefing and cancelled the online portion of the vote. But thirty-three states already allow people in the military and overseas to vote online, and Halderman doubts that any of those systems are secure. "Internet voting is not something we know how to do today," he says, "and it will be decades if ever before we get there."

So will someone eventually hack a real election? "We'll see," says Halderman. "Or maybe we won't see. Not everybody leaves a calling card."

calls & letters

Smart meters aren't free.

"You've been severely misinformed," Nancy Rose Gerler said in a voicemail. Our April Up Front on DTE's installation of "smart" electric meters said the devices are being installed "at no charge to customers." That statement, attributed to a company rep, is true only in the narrow sense that customers aren't billed when the meters are installed. As Gerler pointed out, the Michigan Public Service Commission granted DTE a $37 million rate increase to cover the cost of the changeover—a decision that the state court of appeals recently ordered the MPSC to reconsider.

The Blue Lake Drum

Writer Kimberly Elsifor emailed to correct two errors in her March feature, "Dance for Mother Earth." In his youth her former boyfriend, "John," was a Men's Fancy dancer, not a Grass dancer. We also described the Blue Lake Drum in which John played as a "regular" winner of the powwow's competitions; he says "frequent" would have been more accurate.

question corner

Q: What is the screaming yellow unfinished building visible from westbound I-94 between the State St. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. exits, and what is its status? I'm curious, but not curious enough to get off the freeway before my Jackson Rd. exit to investigate—not that I'd learn much by just looking at it.

A. The screaming was silenced when further construction covered the insulation on what will be a Towne Place Suites by Marriott. Sharing its eight-acre site is another hotel under construction, a Hilton Garden Inn—you may have noticed its shouting purple insulation.

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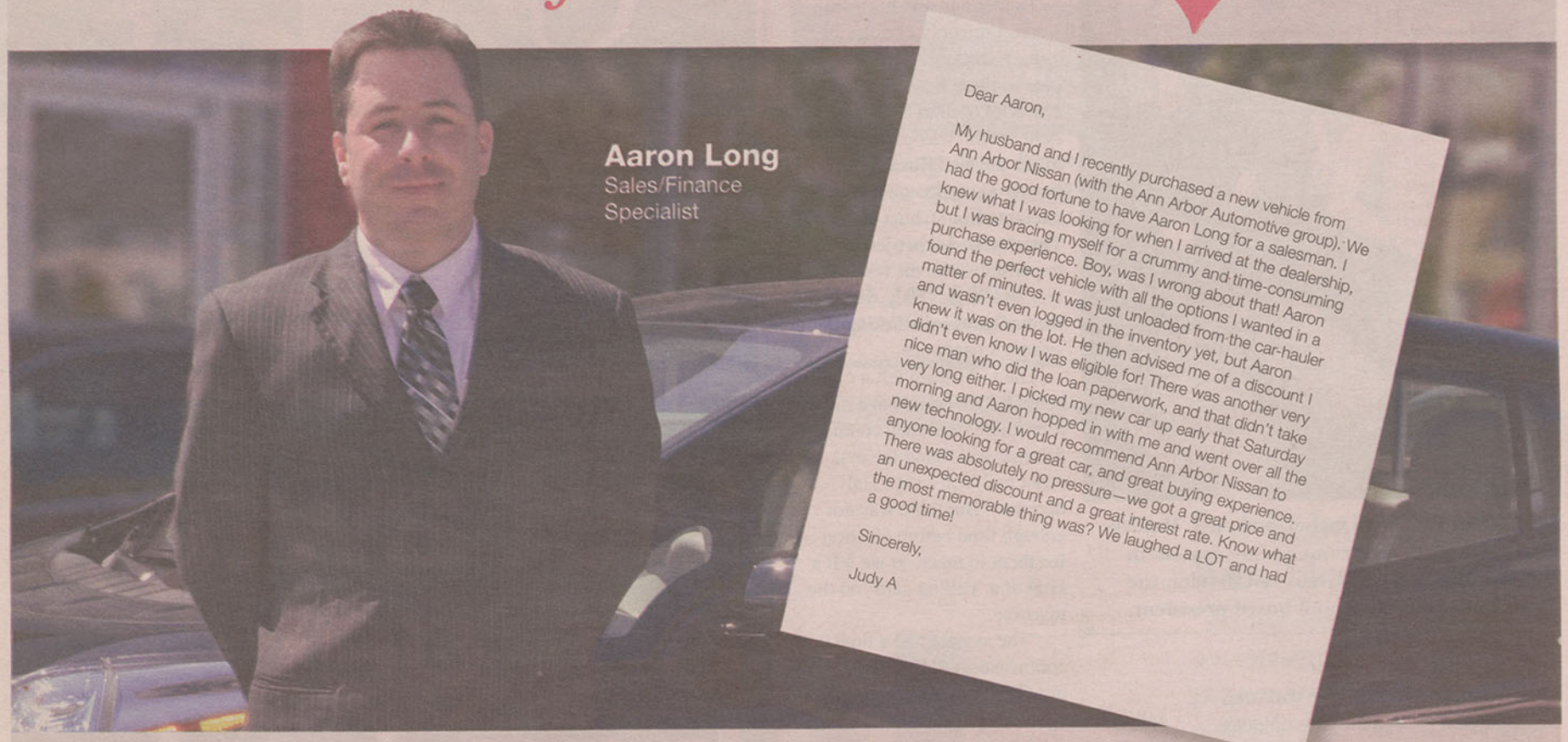

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Sincerely,

Judy A

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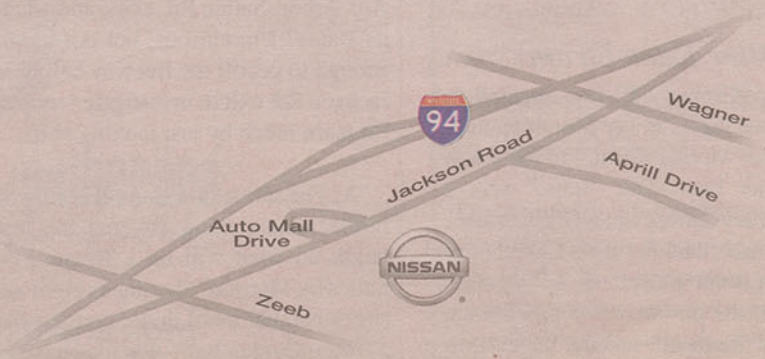
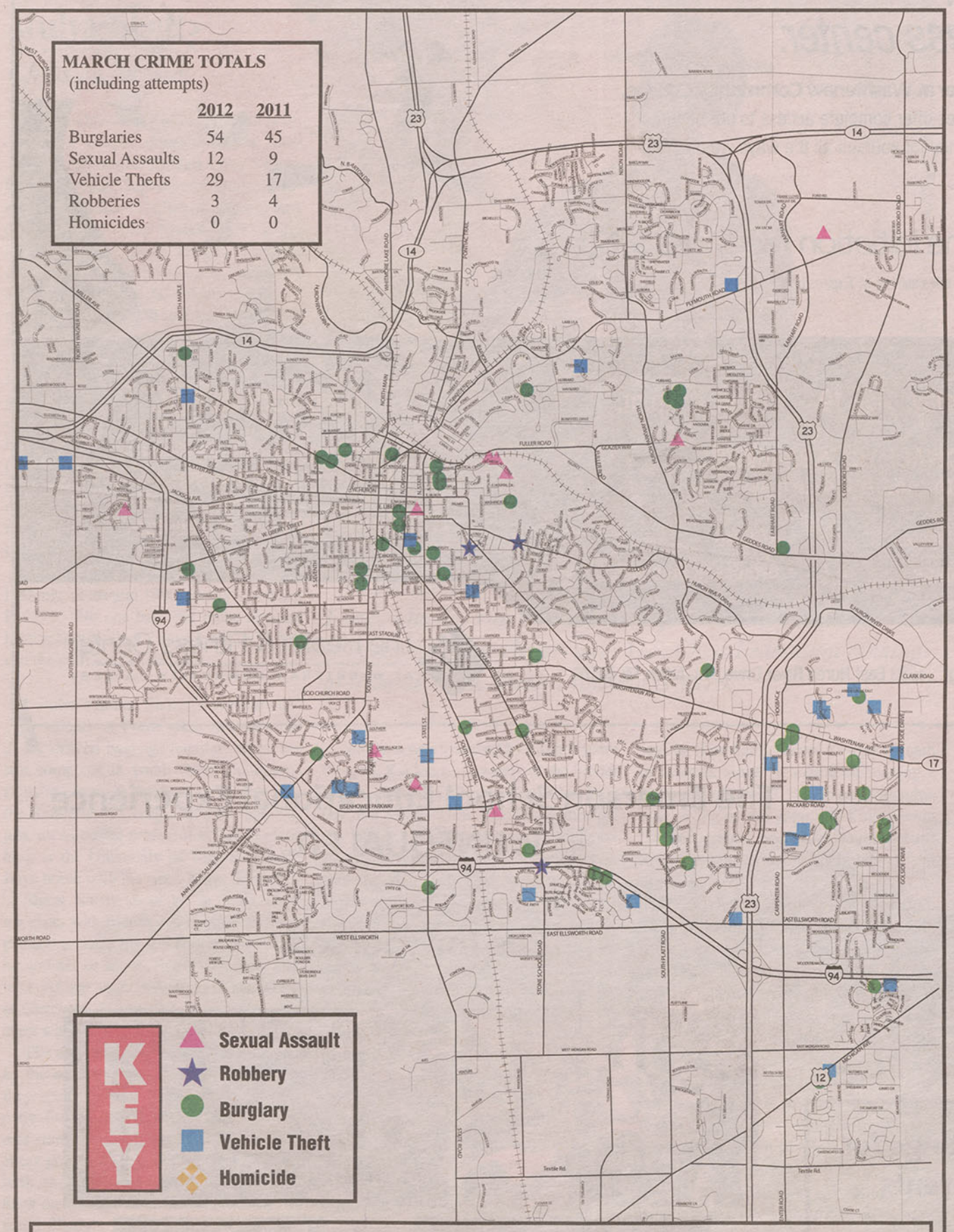


CrimeMap



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **March 2012.** Placement is approximate.

The Ann Arbor and Pittsfield departments have moved to a centralized record-keeping system run by crimemapping.com. As a result, they no longer are able to distinguish crimes from attempts, or sexual assults by acquaintances from assaults by strangers.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **944–1238 in Pittsfield.** If you have questions about a crime shown here, call **Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994–8775, Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.),** the **U-M Department of Public Safety (763–1131),** or the **Pittsfield Department of Public Safety (944–4911).**

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in March 2012 and March 2011.

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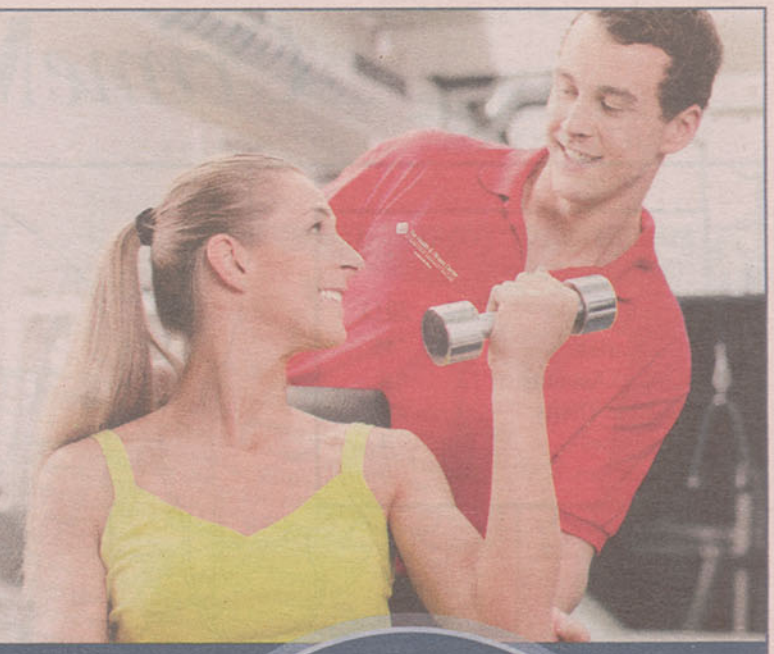

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Ann Arborites

Atulya Shetty

Chess champion

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"No one has ever come through here with his talent," says Ken Long, who has run the Huron High chess club for two decades. Very strong adult players have U.S. Chess Federation rankings of around 1900; Shetty's ranking is 2379.

It's lunchtime at Huron High School, and a couple dozen students have gathered in teacher Ken Long's room for chess club. Sophomore Atulya (pronounced ah-*thul*-ya) Shetty, sixteen, sets up his board to play "quick chess" using a timer. Eating lunch from a Thermos container between moves, his fingers fly across the board as he defeats one opponent after another. "I got crushed!" says club president Jinwoo Lee, a senior.

Shetty smiles often through his braces, looking like a typical teen in his Michigan sweatshirt and athletic pants. But the other kids find him awesome. Not only is Shetty the reigning Michigan Junior Champion for grades K–12, last year he became the youngest-ever champion in the Michigan Open and in April he placed fifth in the USCF National High School Championships.

Very strong adult players have USCF rankings of around 1900, Shetty's ranking is 2379. "No one has ever come through here with his talent," says Long, who has run the club for two decades.

Atulya's father, Sharat, a software developer at Ford, jokes that he's the "official baggage handler" when his son competes in youth chess championships in places as far away as Greece and the Republic of Georgia. His mother, Sujata, an associate professor of urban planning at the University of Toledo, usually stays home with his sister Mira, thirteen.

Sharat Shetty grew up in India playing chess with friends and cousins, and had planned to teach his son how to play when he was six or seven—but Atulya beat him to it. At age four, watching his caregivers at Gretchen's House child-care center play chess with a magnetic set, he asked to join in.

The preschooler soon was so fascinated by the ancient game, his father says, that they spent the next couple years "practically living at Chess Express," the former store on Main Street that hosted open chess games. The store owner, impressed with the kindergartner who sometimes knelt on his chair to reach the board, sponsored Shetty's trip to Dallas for his first tournament. His father recalls how, when they'd return to their hotel room, he could re-create games from memory, move by move.

As a King Elementary student, Shetty took Rec & Ed classes from chess teacher Ray Garrison. "He had natural talent and easily grasped the concepts from the beginning," Garrison recalls. In first grade, he brought home a major title—first place in the USCF National Grade Level Championships in Atlanta. With Shetty as a member, King's chess team also won several state championships. "I think he definitely inspired others to greatness," says Garrison.

Shetty is now coached by Grandmaster Gregory Kaidanov, formerly of the Soviet Union. Kaidanov lives in Kentucky; they talk via Skype while interacting through an online chess interface. Kaidanov gives him chess puzzles for homework, and together they analyze competitors' moves using an Internet database. "Since I started working with Atulya, he always surprises me with how mature he is," Kaidanov writes by email. "As a chess player, you have to make lots of decisions in the course of just one game, and a lot of times emotions take over. However, Atulya is much better than many young players at keeping his emotions under control."

Top chess players can visualize the game in a way hard for outsiders to understand. "When I first started playing, my game was based more on instinct," Shetty explains. "I was able to recognize patterns, and that was the core of my game. For the past few years, I've been studying more, so now my game is less instinctive and more calculated."

He credits careful preparation for his recent win over his friend Michael Bowersock at the Michigan Junior Championship. (Shetty will represent Michigan in August at the Denker Tournament of High School Champions in Vancouver.) He says he knew Bowersock had studied his opening moves, so he deviated from his usual opening line to throw him off track.

Shetty's USCF ranking already qualifies him as a Master player. His goal is to become a Grandmaster, the highest honor in chess aside from world champion. He says he'll probably follow a career in math or science, since "it's difficult making a living off of chess," but he can't imagine ever giving up the game. "If I'm winning I'm encouraged, and if I'm having a hard time it motivates me to study harder," he explains.

He says he's usually not stressed before a competition, but "it's a nerve-wracking game whenever it's close or there's time pressure." His father points to the life lessons inherent in chess. "The game itself teaches patience and that each move you make has consequences, like in life. And there are rewards when you do the right thing." Whenever possible, Shetty challenges himself to "play up" against tougher opponents to constantly improve his game, either in person or through the Internet Chess Club.

Still, "chess isn't the only thing I do," he emphasizes. Schoolwork always comes first, and he's maintaining a 4.0 average. He also plays percussion for Huron's concert band, is on the school's drum line, plays video games, takes karate, and hangs out with friends.

It's nearing the end of lunch period at Huron High, and the White Stripes "Seven Nation Army" blasts from speakers as junior Valerie Peng tries to beat Shetty in their third game. "I've come close to winning before," Peng says. Shetty nods in agreement. "One of these times I'm going to do it!" Shetty—whose first name translates as "there is no equal"—looks up at her and grins.

—Shelley Daily

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A Tale of Two Sisters

Mom, Aunt Lois, and me

My mother grew up in a converted barn on Butternut Street in what used to be called East Ann Arbor. She had five sisters and a brother, Lewie, who hit his head and drowned in Malletts Creek when he was ten years old.

Mom was an alcoholic as a teenager, and by the time she was in her twenties, it was clear that she was mentally ill. Eventually she would be diagnosed with bipolar disease with psychotic features, and narcissistic personality disorder.

When her high school sweetheart married someone else, she took revenge by having sex with a man for whom she had no feelings. She had their baby a few days before her twenty-first birthday, and it was immediately placed for adoption. Disowned by my grandparents, she spun into a world of alcohol, men, and mental illness. Her next four children were either adopted out or taken away by the state under allegations of child abuse. That left me and my little sister, Dawn.

No one knew about autism in 1966. All I knew was that Sissy was quiet until she wasn't, and then she was a screamer. Mom had no idea how to care for her, so though I was only four years old, caring for Sissy became my job.

Until it wasn't.

Mom's illness was showing strong by then. Ordered by the courts to seek help at the risk of losing us, she instead became nomadic. We moved nearly every year, always soon after a teacher or school nurse noticed my bruises.

But this isn't about my mom. It's about one of her sisters, my Aunt Lois. There's an old picture of the two of them, both with wavy red hair, my mom wearing the man's dress shirt and smoking a cigarette and Aunt Lois in coveralls. Give my aunt a rivet gun and she'd be Rosie the Riveter.

COURTESY KIMBERLY ELSIFOR

Aunt Lois married her first husband in the early 1960s and took a job at the Hoover ball-bearing factory. They divorced for reasons that were never any of my business, and she didn't marry again until she was in her mid-sixties.

The state took Sissy away when she was still very young. Mom never explained why, and it quickly became law never to cry or talk about my missing sister. By then, Mom was pregnant again. One warm afternoon when I was four-and-a-half, she took me to a diner and ordered my favorite treat of all time, a hot fudge sundae. As I was eating it, she rose from the booth and left me.

I don't know how long I sat there, but it felt like a very long time before the police showed up. At the sheriff's department someone recognized me. They called Aunt Lois, and she came to get me. I had never seen her before.

She was beautiful, tall, and loud, but on this day she was soft and sweet toward me. She drove me to the Victorian apartment house near the Huron River in Ypsilanti where we were living. We could see Mom standing at the window, but she wouldn't answer the door.

When Aunt Lois came back to the car, she found me desperately trying to suck an ice cream stain out of my shirt. Mom didn't like stains; we couldn't afford new clothes, and I knew better than to spill.

She asked me what I was doing, and when I told her, she laughed. "Wait till we get to my house. We will make a bigger mess on that shirt and I will buy you a new one."

When I asked why I couldn't go home, she only said, "You will stay with me tonight. Your mommy isn't feeling well."

We went back the next day, and this time, Mom let us in. She immediately sent me to my room. Behind a closed oak door I could hear the two of them yelling at each other. I stayed in my room all day; if I had supper, I don't remember it.

About a month later, Mom went into labor for her last child, my sister Terri. She called a cab and went to the hospital, leaving me locked inside the apartment. I was used to her leaving me alone for hours. I knew how to take care of myself—to fix a sandwich if I got hungry and watch TV until bedtime. I was never asleep when Mom came home from the bar, but I knew to pretend that I was.

This time was different. She didn't come home all night. Again the police collected me. This time they took me straight to Lois's house in Ann Arbor.

Her home was tiny, but she welcomed me. "I'm going to paint this living room and I have a little elf to help me—how lucky is that?" she asked. "These putrid green walls gots ta go," she said as she handed me a paintbrush and guided me to a large pan filled with blue paint.

"I don't know how to paint walls."

"You didn't color on the walls at home?"

"Sissy did," I said really softly as I put the paintbrush down. "I got in trouble for letting her."

"Well, you aren't going to get into any trouble today. This is better than coloring on the walls."

"It is?"

"Yeah, we can get messy," she said, and dabbed paint on my nose.

I fell in love with my aunt right then.

I don't think I was much help with the painting, but it was fun—so much fun that I forgot Mom had again abandoned me. I had to sleep on a sofa, but that was okay with me. Though Lois usually worked as much as twelve hours a day, she stayed home to be with me.

After three days, Mom came home with my new sister, and Aunt Lois took me back. After that, she began visiting us regularly. She came over on the weekends and took all of us to the movies until a few months after Terri's second birthday, when Mom met a new guy and moved us to Seattle.

For several years I bought two Mother's Day cards, one for Mom and the other for Aunt Lois. I never mailed them, though; Mom wasn't one who liked to share. It was only after she died in 2006 that I was able to thank my aunt for taking me in all those years ago.

She told me that everyone in the family knew there was something wrong with Mom but had no idea just how bad it was. I told her that Mom was a hard woman to love, but once I was old enough to understand her mental illness, I did love her.

Lois now lives out toward Jackson. She's still a barrel of laughter, a joyous woman whose hair is turning an odd shade of grayish orange. She never had any children, but I believe she would have been a wonderful mother. It took me far too long to tell her that if I could choose any family member to be my mom, it would be her.

Happy Mother's Day, Aunt Lois.

—Kimberly Elsifor

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"COOPETITION"

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

AFTER DECADES OF MISTRUST, THE U-M MEDICAL CENTER AND ST. JOE'S ARE WORKING TOGETHER.

BY DEBBIE EISENBERG MERION

U-M Hospitals CEO Doug Strong (left) has to turn away patients, while St. Joe's CEO Rob Casalou (above) has unfilled beds. They're talking about sharing space—and potentially much more.

Half of the lights on the tenth floor of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital are turned off, and there is an unnatural calm amidst the smell of fresh paint, curved wooden paneling, and newly tiled floors and walls. There is no hum of a Coke machine in the guest waiting area, no nurses sitting at the nurses' station, no hopeful or tearstained families whispering in the hallway.

This is a beautiful, clean space, as inviting as any hotel. But all thirty-four beds on this floor are idle. A twenty-room progressive care unit is also unoccupied, leaving one-tenth of the new, $294 million, 537-bed hospital vacant. St. Joe's doesn't have the patients to fill it.

A gaze from the spotless picture windows on the top floor reveals a possible solution in the distance: University Hospital. In March, a thunderbolt of a press release seemed to momentarily light up the dark rooms: "U-M Health System and Trinity Health–Michigan sign master affiliation agreement."

"We are starting to shrink capacity, and U-M is at capacity," says Rob Casalou, the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System's CEO for Washtenaw and Livingston counties. "I think we both see that there are great opportunities for us to cooperate there."

Doug Strong, CEO of the University of Michigan Hospitals, agrees. "We turn away adults and children on a weekly basis—we have several hundred patients a year that can't be accommodated as quickly as needed. For the adult population, the problem is physical—not enough beds. For children, we don't have enough people, mainly nurses.

"We are looking at using each other's facilities," Strong continues. "We are in conversations about whether we can commingle patients." Those conversations, he adds, are unaffected by the recent steps to expand University Hospital into the former Mott Children's Hospital. "We are eager to explore this experiment on behalf of the community."

Reconsidering their longtime rivalry is one way that the hospitals are responding to an ever-tightening health-care market. "There was a feeling that health care was recession-proof, because if you're sick you're going to go to the hospital," says Casalou. But during the recession, some people put off getting care. Others who got care couldn't pay for it—Casalou says that despite the economic recovery, the percentage of unpaid care St. Joe's provides is still rising. And many people fell back on Medicaid, the federal health insurance program for the poor.

THE RELATIONSHIPS THAT ARE DEVELOPING ARE "VERY UNIQUE," SAYS CASALOU. "SOME PEOPLE CALL IT 'COOPETITION.' WE STILL WILL IN SOME REGARDS COMPETE, AND MANY TIMES WE'LL COOPERATE."

But more patients insured by the government doesn't always mean more money from the government. Michigan now has 1.9 million Medicaid patients, up from 1.3 million ten years ago, but state Medicaid appropriations are no higher than they were ten years ago. Another half-million Michigan residents could go on Medicaid in 2014, when the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare) expands eligibility rules. But the federal law provides extra funding for only two years, Casalou points out. After that, states are on their own. Further increasing the financial pressure, this summer the federal government will freeze payments for elderly patients insured by Medicare. Like a tree during a drought extending its roots, hospitals are looking at alternatives to survive.

Talk of drought may seem strange, considering the river of money flowing through the American medical system. In 2010, the U.S. spent $2.6 trillion on health care—$8,000 for every person in the country. But now the federal government is rocking the boat, and doctors and hospitals are clinging to each other for dear life.

What most patients don't know is that the way health care is delivered in America is about to change 180 degrees, and the evidence of the change can already be seen in Ann Arbor. Hospitals have always been paid to house patients, and doctors to provide specific services, from delivering babies to heart transplants. The Affordable Care Act envisions replacing that with "managed care," delivered by groups of physicians and hospitals that are financially connected, and that are willing to provide all the health-care needs for an entire population for a flat sum per person. The act calls these legal entities "Accountable Care Organizations" (ACOs), reflecting their mission to reduce spending while providing the same or better patient care.

Since hospital care is so expensive—according to hospitalcompare.hhs.gov, treating a heart attack costs an average of $5,299 at St. Joe's and $7,145 at the U-M—ACOs will need to minimize hospital stays in order to save money. And whatever happens to Obamacare—the Supreme Court is currently considering a legal challenge—the new payment model is gaining momentum. Blue Cross Blue Shield already offers an ACO-like program that it calls its Organized System of Care.

Blue-eyed, fortyish, and trim from long-distance cycling as he trains for a 300-mile Make-a-Wish fundraiser this summer, Casalou describes these pressures with the same calm approachability and clarity of the message he's been giving to St. Joe's staff: This is urgent, but don't panic. We have a plan.

More money is supposed to flow into the health-care system in 2014, when all Americans will be required to buy health insurance as part of the Affordable Care Act. But Casalou says that St. Joe's can't and won't wait for the Supreme Court's decision on that.

"The mantra we have is we are managing through a transition, and we can't let the transition kill us," says Casalou. "They could repeal the health care reform act tomorrow, and it would not change one thing that we're doing."

The flutter of hospital helicopters cutting through the air overhead is both frightening and comforting—a resource you hope you never need but are happy is there if you need it. For St. Joe's, a chopper's blades were similarly a double-edged sword: a sign of its independence and strength, and also a money loser to the tune of $1.6 million a year.

Though the U-M and St. Joe's are just five miles apart, for more than twenty years each operated its own air ambulance service. The duplication of Survival Flight and Midwest Medflight reflected the deep mistrust between their parents. When the

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"COOPETITION"

hospitals sat down to discuss combining the services, Doug Strong recalls, "we had to overcome concern from St. Joe's that they would not be first-class citizens" in the alliance.

"Those with long memories thought the U-M would steal all of our patients," Casalou confirms. Nonetheless, last September, Midwest Medflight ceased operations. Air ambulance patients bound for St. Joe's, now travel on Survival Flight. And according to Casalou, the "U-M has completely lived up to their end of the deal. They bring the [patient] transports here that are supposed to come here. If there are field traumas out there, depending on the geography, they bring them here, instead of the university—so they haven't used it as a [competitive] mechanism. They get our business, but they have not used it to inure themselves at our expense."

And the gain in efficiency is incredible. Midwest Medflight made 600 flights a year and had two dozen staff and contract employees. Yet Survival Flight was able to take over all its responsibilities with its existing staff and equipment. "We didn't buy a new helicopter, we had no new expense," says Strong, while St. Joe's "savings were considerable."

Another example of the growing trust is St. Joe's relationship with the U-M in pediatric cardiology. Until recently, when children hospitalized at St. Joe's needed advanced heart surgery, the operations were performed by doctors from the Detroit-based Children's Hospital of Michigan rather than from the U-M. Casalou says that the university insisted that young heart patients be transferred to its hospital before their doctors would operate; Children's was willing to come to St. Joe's.

Casalou says that when cooperating with the U-M was proposed, there were people who said, "'it will never work. They [U-M] won't provide the same services as Children's, they just want every [patient] shipped over there.'" But Casalou says the U-M not only provides that same service that Children's did, it also added a pediatric cardiology clinic at St. Joe's, and streamlined its admissions procedures so doctors and patients can easily move between the two hospitals. "They have really gone out of their way to extend themselves into here, and that has made the difference," says Casalou.

"We've waxed and waned in terms of thinking collaboratively and thinking competitively," says Strong. Gray-haired, sturdy, and soft spoken, his well worn U-M ID hanging from a chain over the middle of his full chest, he meets a reporter at a round table in his conference room at 300 North Ingalls. The building, ironically, housed St. Joseph Mercy Hospital until 1977. Now the U-M is again considering using space built by St. Joe's.

Beds are just the beginning of what the university wants from this new relationship: it's also looking for referrals from St. Joe's parent, the Trinity Health System. Strong says that only one-third of

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"We were not looking to be bought," says Mary Durfee, medical director of Integrated Health Associates. But with new managed-care plans coming, "we needed better partnerships with a hospital." Since its 2010 merger with Trinity Health, IHA has added eighty providers, including Jay Winegarden and his colleagues at Ann Arbor Oncology Associates.

their patients live within thirty miles, the radius where they compete with St. Joe's. Two-thirds come from farther away. While the U-M is "comfortable" with its ability to compete with St. Joe's locally, Strong says, "we are less confident of the other two-thirds." That's where Trinity's forty-seven hospitals in seven states, including sixteen in Michigan, look very attractive.

"Our competitor there is not St. Joe's, because they are not in the referral business," Strong explains. "Our mutual presence could strengthen the Trinity brand—we could collaborate and earn referrals back here. Even if U-M and St. Joe's were in an active phase of competition [locally], there would still be a logic for this statewide Trinity agreement," says Strong. "We can't own everything."

WHEN MIDWEST MEDFLIGHT CEASED OPERATIONS LAST FALL, U-M'S SURVIVAL FLIGHT TOOK OVER ITS RUNS WITHOUT ADDING EQUIPMENT OR STAFF. THE SAVINGS: $1.6 MILLION A YEAR.

"I've been here for thirteen and a half years, and I've seen the pendulum swing," the U-M CEO continues. "But we're at a point now where both organizations believe that there is enough business for both organizations to thrive. What the nation and the state and our citizens are asking [of] us is improving quality and efficiency at the same time, and we are learning and believing that a lot of this can be done through collaboration, as opposed to just flat-out competition."

The relationships that are developing are "very unique," says Casalou. "Some people call it 'coopetition.' We still will in some regards compete, and many times we'll cooperate … The nice thing is we talk about just about everything."

Both hospitals hope that coopetition will be just what the doctor ordered as they adapt to the new economics of medicine. And as their discussions continue, sharing beds could be just the first phase of the treatment.

In December, the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced that the U-M was one of thirty-two medical centers around the country chosen to launch the "Pioneer ACO Model." It's a pilot project testing the new "shared savings payment policy," so called because hospitals and physicians will both benefit if the ACO delivers care more efficiently. And the university invited the doctors at St. Joe's corporate cousin, Integrated Health Associates, to join them.

Casalou is on the steering committee for the Pioneer project. "If our experience is good there, we can envision a more community-wide ACO," he says. "Maybe, for primary care, we could all end up together, in one big giant ACO." Not only could local patients move back and forth between the competing hospitals in the future, they could even get their primary care from the same physicians' network.

St. Joe's has been adding doctors to its fold in record numbers in the last two years. In back-to-back deals at the end of 2010, its corporate parent, SJMHS, acquired Michigan Heart with thirty-four cardiologists, while its corporate grandparent, Trinity, merged with Integrated Health Associates, a mega-practice with 192 primary-care docs and specialists and more than 260,000 patients.

"We were not looking at being bought," says Mary Durfee, IHA's medical director. But with ACOs on the horizon, they knew "we needed better partnerships with a hospital, and we were discussing what was the vehicle to partner our skills, people, and leadership."

And St. Joe's needed doctors, not only to solidify their patient base, but because physicians will be the decision makers and the key to saving money in future ACOs.

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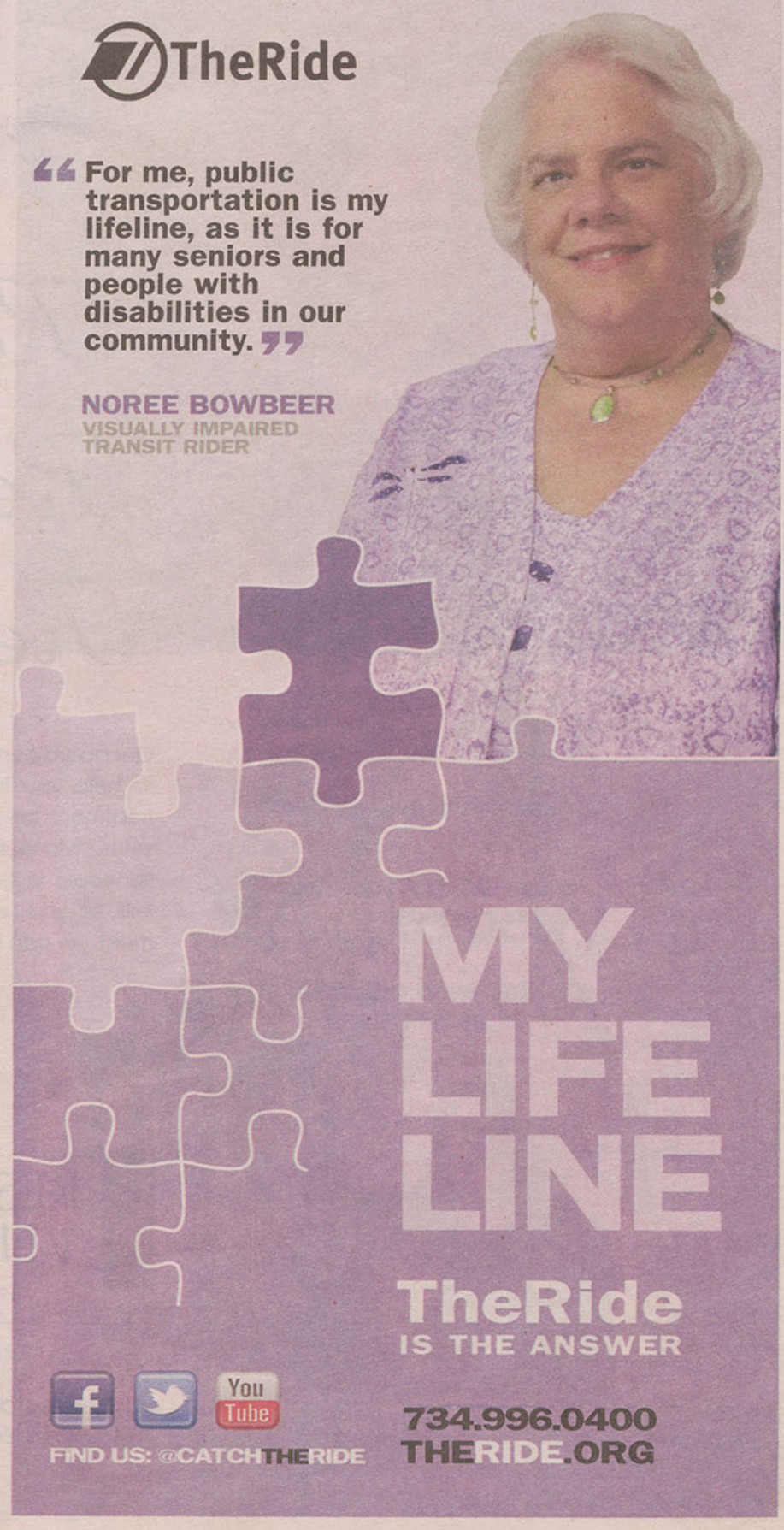

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"COOPETITION"

Since the merger, Trinity's cash has fueled rapid growth. "IHA had a goal to double their size by 2019," says Casalou. "We said we wanted to cut that to 2015, and it looks like we are going to accomplish it by 2014 … we're up to 270 providers—I say 'providers' intentionally, because it is a mix of doctors and mid-level providers. Probably at this time next year that number will be well [over] 300."

Last fall, Paul Harkaway, then president of the independent Huron Valley Physicians Association, compared the national rush to form large medical groups to "a feeding frenzy. Hospitals aren't ringing doorbells," he said. "Largely, physicians are offering themselves to hospitals." (Harkaway has since been consumed himself—he now works for Trinity, overseeing its relationships with independent doctors—see box, p. 29).

Jay Winegarden understands the urge to merge. "It was clear there was a problem with our current model of generating revenue," says the managing partner of Ann Arbor Oncology Associates. "My salary had dropped by nearly 50 percent of what I was making five years ago."

The problem was not Obamacare, but the Medicare and Medicaid Act of 2003. Provisions in the law that were intended to prevent fraud had the effect of restricting payments to oncology physicians, who deliver cancer treatments such as chemotherapy.

"This is a producer-based system," says the slim, forty-two-year-old physician. "You are not reimbursed for thinking. It's a lot easier to show that you took out an appendix, as opposed to me coming up with a chemotherapy plan."

Winegarden talked to St. Joe's, the U-M, and IHA—"not to start a bidding war, but to find the best thing for the doctors I represent." The best thing meant not only what they'd earn, but "who will allow us to deliver the best patient care."

His group decided to accept IHA's offer, Winegarden says, because they wanted to stay in place in the Reichert Building, and "IHA had the economics to make it work so that we could retain the physicians we have and recruit good physicians." IHA also brought the doctors' salaries back to the median levels reported by professional groups. But while the checks are larger and more stable, Winegarden notes, "provider compensation is based upon productivity and patient surveys that are given two times a year."

Casalou says his own performance is judged similarly. "More of my evaluation is not-financial than financial," he says. "It's more around patient satisfaction, safety scores, how satisfied our employees are and how satisfied our doctors are—and 'by the way, did you make your budget?'"

The coopetition between the U-M and St. Joe's is a harbinger of what will happen throughout the country. "The State of Michigan is a national leader in learning how to take off competitive hats and put on collaborative

hats," says Doug Strong. "I think what is happening in Ann Arbor is a microcosm of that overall effort."

But will the prescribed treatment work? And if it does, how will it affect patients?

"One of the drivers is [that] the government thinks this industry is too fractured, and they think bigger will be better," says David Butz, a U-M Business School faculty member specializing in health-care economics. "But I see no reason to think bigger will be better."

The history of an earlier federal effort to promote managed care isn't encouraging. "Health maintenance organizations" were supposed to reduce the need for acute and emergency treatment by providing better preventive care. When that didn't happen, HMOs were reconfigured to make primary-care docs "gatekeepers" who had incentives to limit unneeded care. But spending continued its relentless growth. Most European countries, Canada, and Japan spend about half as much per person as the U.S., and in most of those countries, people live longer.

One way that supporters think ACOs can save money is by doing a better job of outpatient care. If chronic conditions like diabetes and congestive heart failure are not well managed, they can lead to frequent and expensive hospitalizations. So hospitals are teaming up not only with primary-care doctors, but with home-health-care networks as well. Treating people in the least-intensive possible setting, Casalou says, is in everyone's best interest: "I've never seen a patient who argues that they want to be in the hospital."

The other plan to save money is to make patients take more responsibility for their own health. Though most doctors already encourage healthy habits like losing weight and getting more exercise, the message is often tuned out—or rejected outright. One local woman who goes to a very fitness-minded doctor tells how, after confirming her blood pressure was under control, she scolded him, "That's all you need to know. Don't go closing that door and lecturing me" about healthier living.

"If they won't listen to advice, then it's going to have to be out of the pocketbook," Casalou says. "If you look at obesity rates in this county, only 2 percent is explained by thyroids or other medical conditions. That means 98 percent of obesity is controllable." Knowing that saving money can be a motivator, insurance plans such as Blue Cross Blue Shield's Healthy Living already give financial incentives to people with good health habits, such as not smoking and controlling their weight. Patients can expect a lot more of that in the future.

Casalou practices what he preaches. Not only is St. Joe's sponsoring the Make-a-Wish Foundation's 300-mile bicycle tour in July, but Casalou will be riding in it as part of "Team Joe's."

His personal goal is to raise $10,000. But first, he's going to challenge the U-M to create their own team. The fundraising bike ride could be just one more phase in their growing coopetition. ■

THE WAR OF INDEPENDENTS

At least one local medical practice has no interest in merging or being purchased by a hospital. Like a shy but pretty girl at a party, Washtenaw Medicine (WM) is still getting noticed while sitting alone at the sidelines.

"There is always going to be someone who will talk to you, especially in this environment," says WM founder Michael Sanson.

Sanson worked at St. Joe's for eleven years before he and his wife, Sherrie Tefend, also an internal medicine physician, started WM in 2003. It's since grown to include twenty-four providers in five offices who send patients to the U-M, St. Joe's, and Beaumont Hospital in suburban Detroit. But Sanson says he's committed to staying independent of any one hospital, because he likes being nimble. St. Joe's, he says, is "a good organization, and it's a larger organization, and sometimes smaller details are not addressed in a timely manner." When he worked there, he says, if he needed a new medical assistant the authorization and budgeting process could take several months. Now, when he needs a new assistant, he just hires one.

Sanson is able to stay independent in part through the support of the Huron Valley Physicians Association. Created by a small group of St. Joe's doctors in 1973, HVPA has grown to include 750 physicians who pool resources in areas such as informational technology and billing. But now change is in the air for HVPA.

"HVPA is in the middle of a lot of long weekend retreats trying to decide what their future looks like," says St. Joe's CEO Rob Casalou.

Will HVPA's physicians be able to remain independent, or will they find themselves pulled into the "coopetition" between St. Joe's and the U-M? While it's too soon to know for sure, it may be telling that the group's immediate past president, Paul Harkaway, is himself no longer independent. In January, Harkaway started work at St. Joe's parent, the Trinity Health System, as vice president of clinical integration and accountable care. His job, a PR person emails, includes "determining the best structure for our relationships with our external physician network.

He'll have plenty to do. Harkaway was hired, Casalou says, "because what we are talking about here [creating physician-hospital networks] is happening with Trinity in every market from here to California to Maryland."

—D.E.M.

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IN THE ZONE

How zoning, politics, and economics turned a row of historic houses on S. Fifth Ave. into an ugly student apartment complex

BY **GREG DOBRIN**

"How can they just tear down these old houses?"

The young woman, lips pursed, documented the spectacle with her phone as the last in a row of seven S. Fifth Ave. dowagers toppled into oblivion.

"It's really destructive," she said. Which is, I refrained from pointing out, the inescapable truth about destruction.

"Violent," she clarified.

Violent indeed. And curiouser and curiouser in a town with such a peaceful-sounding name as "Ann Arbor"—a name as charming and genteel as the city itself.

Except during these bouts of darkness, I thought, while the houses creaked and buckled—the bad days when Ann Arbor takes sharp objects to its renowned skin and turns … self-abusive.

A cutter. A tweaker.

The Lindsay Lohan of redevelopment.

An elderly spectator hobbled from the scene, hands batting the air as he muttered something about the wrecking of nice things and the ugly ones going up.

Not that everything ever lost to new construction was "nice" to begin with, but the man did have a point.

There was, for instance, the "progress" frenzy of the 1950s and 1960s, when gingerbread bowed to Bauhaus and Ann Arbor's very own Main Street USA, its lacey needlepoint Victoriana entombed beneath layers of corrugated aluminum, dropped to its arthritic knees while gleaming new asphalt acreages with names like Westgate and Arborland beckoned an ever-expanding car culture.

From gilded age bustier to Le Corbusier … talk about painting the Red Queen's roses red.

And much like Wonderland's croquet game, the run-up to the South Fifth blitz was a fractious match that banged around city council chambers and neighborhood meetings for five long years. The result—keepsake homes demolished for ho-hum student housing—left townies a little confused, if not mad as hatters.

The short explanation is that developer Alex de Parry, after much wrangling and expense, was given a third chance to submit a project—his twice-rejected Heritage Row—that he said would save the homes, but he didn't take it. Then a new developer, de Parry's former partner, declared Heritage Row too expensive to build anyway, starting the dizzying plunge to vacant lots and—as if soaring upward after a bite of magic cake—the two massive blocks of student apartments called City Place that filled them.

It's a trail of tears that leads back to 2006, when de Parry, who owned five of the houses and had an interest in the other two, began discussions with neighbors and the city about redeveloping the property, which lies just south of downtown. His initial plan would've demolished the houses for brownstone-like buildings, a design that came to be known as "Beakes Place" (because the 1830s Gaskell-Beakes House would be among the tear-downs). He submitted a "conditional rezoning" application to the city in late 2007; in early 2008, the planning commission recommended against it, suggesting that the plan was better suited for a Planned Unit Development.

PUDs are basically their own special zoning districts. "You customize the zoning regulations for a PUD," says city planner Matt Kowalski, "and in exchange for the city giving you some flexibility in your design and your setback and your height and placement, you have to give a public benefit back to the city."

The evolving PUD plans de Parry submitted over the next couple of years ultimately became known as Heritage Row. In exchange for stretching the rules for its multi-family R4C neighborhood, the final version's promised public benefits included underground parking, prohibiting high-density six-bedroom floor plans, and, most important, preserving the historic houses, though moved onto new foundations and joined by three new apartment buildings in the rear of the property.

According to a meticulously detailed chronology on AnnArborChronicle.com, de Parry's PUD proposals were on the City Council agenda ten times between May 2010 and October 2011. But in Ann Arbor, zoning is destiny, and once it's in place, it's not easily changed. Because most neighboring property owners opposed the PUD, it required a supermajority—eight votes out of eleven—to pass. It never got more than seven.

Long before Heritage Row went down, however, de Parry won city council approval for another plan, the one that's now being built as City Place. It was a seed—an invasive species, if you will—that sprouted in the developer's back pocket while the more historically sensitive PUDs were sequentially denied.

Unlike Heritage Row, City Place is a "matter of right" project that required no zoning changes at all. It brushes up

JEFF LAMB

Fifth Ave. south of William in the spring of 2009.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

The same view in the spring of 2012.

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IN THE ZONE

against, but doesn't cross, R4C limits on the maximum number of units (twenty per acre, or twenty-four in all), minimum number of parking spaces (1.5 per unit, regardless of the number of residents), and maximum height (thirty feet, averaged between roof peaks and eaves). Every unit has six bedrooms (and five or six baths), the parking is a surface lot, and, of course, the historic homes are gone, replaced by a pair of chunky three-story buildings.

The new buildings have about as many apartments as the seven houses, but City Place has many more bedrooms—144. And in today's market, says Mike Quinn of Quinn Evans Architects, it's the bedrooms, not the units, that count. "That's an unfortunate condition for the community," he says, "but it's probably a good condition for the students," who'll be able to rent a bed-bath suite for $1,050 to $1,200 a month (or $900 if they're willing to share a bathroom).

Alex de Parry says that city council "gambled and lost" in turning down Heritage Row. He thinks councilmembers believed "that City Place would never get built, mainly because financing was not available."

Was City Place a development the city council didn't want? "Absolutely," says First Ward councilmember Sabra Briere. That sentiment is echoed by Carsten HoŸke, councilmember for the Fifth Ward, the one in which the seven *grandes dames* once stood. "I'm no expert on design or architecture," says HoŸke, "but I'm not a big fan of the current version of City Place."

City Place, adds Briere, "was not a project that excited anyone aesthetically, not even the developer."

Almost all of the local architects I called about City Place demurred when I asked what they thought of its looks. Only Marc Rueter, who's designed dozens of small-scale residential and commercial projects around town, was willing to be quoted. After giving the developers credit for minimizing costs—wood-frame buildings are "about the cheapest way to build something"—Rueter calls the design "really bad. It's really too bad that it happened."

The regrets cut deeper than aesthetics. City Hall itself, that metonym of municipal best interest, wanted the houses saved and City Place stopped. Mayor JoŸ Hieftje, according to AnnArbor.com, encouraged staff to use all available tools to oppose it. And yet, says Briere, the ungainly project was fully legal. Nobody could find a way to reject it.

"The city council cannot use as an evaluative tool whether we 'like' a project. We use the criteria zoning provides," she says. In that sense, City Place is a testimonial to our culture's emphasis on private property.

"When we don't want to impose restrictions on properties over the objections of the property owners," Briere says, "it's because we respect those property owners' individual rights, and those individual rights outweigh the good of the community."

A rose, in other words, is only a rose,

thorns and all, and our planning process never promised us a garden of them. As long as a proposal meets all codes and requirements, the city can't turn it down.

The thing is, HoŸke explains, "Unless there is an extreme exception in the health, safety, or welfare of the public, you really have to allow folks to do what they want with their property if it conforms with the zoning. Otherwise they will sue, we will lose, it will cost the taxpayers millions of dollars, and they'll build it anyway."

The distress at seeing the houses come down and City Place go up was even more intense because there were so many might-have-beens. At first, it seemed that the block might be preserved by creating a new historic district, called "Germantown."

All the houses were nearly a hundred years old, or even older, depending on your perspective (they'd each been altered at one point or another). One in particular, the Gaskell-Beakes house, was home to two of our mayors, Hiram Beakes (mayor 1873–1875) and Samuel Beakes (1888–1890), for whom Beakes St. was named. Oddly enough, the men weren't related, although Sam did marry Hiram's daughter, Annie.

Given a fashionable Italianate primping in 1859 (Hiram's wife was something of a socialite) and again reconfigured when converted to apartments in the 1920s, the house encompassed an original Greek Revival structure dating from 1838.

In August 2009, council approved Carsten HoŸke's motion to create a historic district study committee. The year-long moratorium on demolition and construction during that review buoyed the hope that the Beakes House, and others, might be spared.

Ann Arborites love their old buildings, Briere says. "They may not ever want to live in one, but they like the look and feel of the neighborhoods that surround the downtown. The old Ann Arbor community. That's why people come here to film movies. That's why people have given an award to Main Street, which wouldn't look anything like it does today if it weren't in an historic district."

At the end of the review, the study committee recommended making Germantown a historic district. But though HoŸke, Briere, and two others supported it, most of their colleagues concluded it was a district too far. Ann Arbor has so many historic districts already, they felt, that one more would complete a noose of preservation around downtown, effectively strangling growth and expansion.

Then what about Heritage Row? Did City Council, as de Parry says, gamble that they could preserve the status quo if they turned down the PUD, and then lose the bet?

"I think everybody blew it," says de Parry of the project's ping-pong scuttling.

An Illinois native and pre-med major who enrolled at the University of Michigan in 1965 and never left town, de Parry says he always wanted to save the houses, several of which had been his home and the homes of his children since he first began purchasing them in 1972. They'd have been razed for his Beakes Place plan, but if the city had approved Heritage Row, de Parry says, "we were willing to restore the houses and bring them up to twenty-first-century modern conveniences." The developer says he sold out to his partners because "I wasn't going to be the one to tear those houses down."

The city hoped the new owners, led by Jeff Helminski of Rochester-based Campus Village Communities, would reconsider Heritage Row. But in an October letter, Helminski said that in his group's opinion, the design de Parry proposed "is not economically viable or financeable."

The city's savviest business reporter, AnnArbor.com's Paula Gardner, seemed to come down on Helminski's side. In an opinion piece last October, Gardner called Heritage Row a "wish list" project that could never have been brought to market.

It's a notion that relegates the supposed "battle" to preserve the S. Fifth Ave. houses to mere hallucination.

Gardner's red flag in what she labeled a "faux debate" over Heritage Row was the costly underground parking. Another reality check, Gardner wrote, was the claim that Heritage Row's two- and three-bedroom units would be marketed to "professionals."

While a Wolverine huddle of high-rises has muscled into Ann Arbor's skyline lately, they're not geared toward greenhorn lawyers and stylish young Google execs. Virtually all of them cater to students.

So does City Place. Or, as Gardner put it, "Five bedroom floor plans" (and certainly those with six) "really do signal student housing."

Is there anything to learn from all this? For one thing, although the brow-raising new complex adheres to the legal limits of the R4C zone, that zoning itself is an eye-opener. Says city planner Kowalski, "A lot of people don't fully realize what the zoning allows when you combine the parcels ... We don't have any limitations on lot combinations currently."

That could change. Kowalski heads a citizen review committee charged with developing recommendations for updates to R4C and R2A (duplex) zoning, which date back to the 1960s.

But unlike in the nearby downtown, which recently implemented a design review process, architectural restrictions are unlikely in R4C and R2A. Design standards are difficult to enact, Kowalski says, and, because of the neighborhoods' architectural diversity, even harder to determine.

And so if a project falls outside a historic district and outside of downtown, there aren't—and possibly never will be—any design guidelines. "You could tecŸically put up the ugliest project in the world if you wanted," Kowalski says.

The review committee's recommendations are expected in the coming months, but their codification and enactment could be another lengthy process. In the meantime, says HoŸke, "What you currently have is zoning that everybody agrees isn't good. It allows for things you don't want." ■

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by Eve Silberman

Paul Courant's Second Act

It seemed a comedown when the former U-M provost took over the university library system. Now he's a national player in a contentious battle over the future of books.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"I'd be the first to admit that the librarians who report to me know a lot more about libraries than I do," says Courant, an economist by training. "But I know about *universities*. That turns out to be a very useful thing to know about when speaking about the future of libraries."

Last summer, negotiations seemed to be moving along between the U-M and the Authors Guild of America, which represents some 8,000 authors. The guild was concerned that books still in copyright might be improperly shared through HathiTrust, an online archive housed at the university. "We had scheduled a visit," recalls Paul Courant, head of the U-M library system. "They were going to come to Ann Arbor and talk to us and help us design a process."

"And then one day [last September] they called us up and said they were going to sue us instead."

Once again U-M's name was dragged into a lawsuit over copyright infringement—not the kind of media buzz an academic institution seeks. In 2005, the Authors Guild sued Google, claiming that the mother of all search engines had violated its members' copyrights when it announced plans to scan millions of books in the libraries of the U-M and other schools.

As U-M provost from 2002 to 2005, Courant negotiated the agreement with Google for what is now known as Google Books—a factor that played into his surprise selection as university librarian in 2007. He now reports to provost Phil Hanlon, who used to report to him. But it's Courant who's making news in academia, through his work to reshape U-M's vast holdings into a prototype for the libraries of the twenty-first century—libraries with more digital resources, many fewer books, and much of their space repurposed.

But the technology that lets scholars do their reading and research on computer screens instead of paper arrived before important legal and ethical questions were decided. That's why writers, editors, publishers, and academics are watching both lawsuits closely. In its 2005 lawsuit, the Authors Guild argued that the scanning process itself amounted to "a brazen violation of copyright law." The new litigation was triggered by plans to share those digital volumes: in a press release, guild president and best-selling writer Scott Turow zinged HathiTrust's intention to let students and faculty download books that are new enough to still be in copyright but whose authors could not be tracked down. Witheringly, Turow pointed out that as soon as the archive released a list of these "orphan work candidates," guild members and others quickly located many of the works' authors or their heirs. The purported orphans' parents, Turow sniped, included "authors who are signing e-book agreements and the literary estates of Pulitzer Prize winners."

Courant, sixty-four, looks unhappy as a reporter reads that quote aloud. A voracious reader whose librarian mother still volunteers at the New York Public Library, he does not relish being attacked by the country's largest writers' union. In a press release, he called the lawsuit "misguided and unnecessary." But he says he can't talk in depth about the suit while it's pending, wryly joking, "They don't allow me out without a university lawyer!"

The litigation is all the more galling because Courant is proud that U-M is a national leader in the greatest change in information retrieval since the invention of the printing press. Although his overall affect is cool, his passion is evident when he announces, "We're not very far away from being able to make almost everything that's ever been published usable by almost everybody who can read. I think that's a tremendous boon to humanity when we get there—and I want us to get there!"

Courant's spacious office on the eighth floor of the Graduate Library—nice view—is sprinkled with family pictures. (He and attorney Marta Manildi have a son at Earlham College; Courant also has two sons from his first marriage, and a young granddaughter.) A vintage children's book, *So You Want to Be A Librarian,* is displayed on a shelf.

A short, striking-looking man with wavy silver hair, Courant looks sharply at you through narrow glasses. An online biographical statement rolls out the credentials you'd expect for a distinguished U-M prof—"authored half a dozen books and over seventy papers"—but unexpectedly closes, "He rides a BMW R115OR motorcycle."

Courant grew up in a household of high expectations. His father, Ernest, is a prominent physicist, while his German-born paternal grandfather wrote what Courant describes as "the most widely used calculus textbook in the world." Fired early in the Nazi era because of his Jewish heritage, Richard Courant relocated to New York University; Grandma Nina, a pianist, adored Eleanor Roosevelt. At family dinners, "the social conscience department was hers," recalls Courant. "The math and science tough questions were his."

In a withering press release, Authors Guild president Scott Turow pointed out that the HathiTrust's "orphan work candidates" included books by "authors who are signing e-book agreements and the literary estates of Pulitzer Prize winners."

Courant majored in economics at Swarthmore, adding a master's and doctorate at Princeton. His research focuses on public economics: he's written on tax reform, the economic impact of the Great Lakes, and university finances. Lately, not surprisingly, he's concentrated on academic libraries.

He arrived in Ann Arbor in 1973, and, apart from a short stint working for Jimmy Carter's Council of Economic Advisors, he's been here ever since. He held various leadership positions before being appointed provost and vice president for academic affairs in 2002. Though it's not clear why Courant wasn't reappointed at the end of his three-year term, a common speculation is that then-new president Mary Sue Coleman wanted to choose her own person for the job. (His immediate successor, Theresa Sullivan, is now president of the University of Virginia.)

After he stepped down, Courant headed the search committee for a new university librarian. In an unexpect-

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Paul Courant's Second Act

ed twist, Sullivan asked if he'd be interested in being considered himself. He replied in the affirmative, resigned from the committee, and a few months later was offered and accepted the position.

If this seems like a slide into obscurity, Courant begs to differ. "If the library was one of the schools and colleges, it would be the fifth or sixth largest," he says. "It employs a lot of people; it touches the lives of almost everybody on campus. The library has over four million visitors a year and then several [million] more electronic visitors."

Courant's willingness to take the library job was a "stroke of luck," says Margaret Leary, recently retired director of the law library. His scholarly accomplishments and experience as provost, she says, gave him instant credibility. Barbara MacAdam, who was associate director under his predecessor, Bill Gosling, praises Courant as a "visionary."

Still, some library staffers grumbled about giving a non-librarian the top job. His hiring, and especially his emphasis on digitization, demoralized some older librarians, hired in the era when books were everything. "They feel like they're invisible," says one sympathetic former employee.

Although Courant did some good-will shifts on the reference desk, MacAdam says, it's not his role "to actually manage and lead the library on a daily basis." He's sufficiently removed from day-to-day operations that at one point he escorts an Observer reporter and photographer to see the Grad Library's Audubon Room, only to find that it's closed for renovation. "No one told me," he says a bit sheepishly.

"I'd be the first to admit that that the librarians who report to me know a lot more about libraries than I do," Courant says. "But I know about *universities*. That turns out to be a very useful thing to know about when speaking about the future of libraries."

Courant is the big-picture guy. He serves on the steering committee planning a "national digital library" that would include public as well as university libraries. He frequently flies to conferences where confused and anxious academics and librarians try to make sense of a world where scholarship no longer depends on easy access to physical books.

Former U-M president Jim Duderstadt, an early apostle of digital everything, calls himself one of the "older guard," because he still has shelves of books in his office. Many of his fellow engineering profs, he says, haven't touched a library book in years. And undergrads have never known a non-digital world. English prof June Howard says that a few of her students seem never to have checked out a library book.

A dozen years ago, former U-M librarian Gene Alloway saw something that stopped him cold. A Grad Library employee was wheeling out about a dozen boxes of nineteenth-century American history books. Their covers had been ripped off, and they were headed for the Dumpster.

"I confronted them about it," recalls Alloway, emotion evident in his voice. "They had been guillotined at the bindery!" The

Michigan was "bold" to take on the Google project, says former law library director Margaret Leary. "Other libraries were nervous—they just wanted Google to do parts of their collections."

books had been scanned and put online as part of the "Making of America" project, a collaborative effort between U-M and Cornell that digitized primary sources from 1840 to 1900. After arguing with a library official, Alloway was able to stall the volumes' destruction—but only temporarily. The books were destroyed in the end. (Alloway now co-owns Motte & Bailey, a scholarly used-book store.)

Not everyone mourned the books' demise. "A lot of them weren't in very good shape," recalls one former librarian. "They were going to fall apart anyway." But Alloway's gut reaction reflects the deep emotions books arouse. Although MacAdam enthusiastically championed Courant's changes, she understands that books can be both beloved objects in themselves and powerful symbols of education. In a sense, she says, "the library is the cathedral of the university." The books displayed in its "beautiful spaces … make real the world of research and scholarship and teaching."

For people born before, say, 1990, the choice between physical books and digital text is not clear-cut. Courant himself uses a Kindle, but he bought one of his sons a volume of Yeats's poems for Christmas and still subscribes to magazines delivered by mail, including the *New Yorker,* the *Economist,* and the *New York Review of Books*.

But in the dozen libraries he oversees, the slow retreat from print is clear. In the past five years, the number of items checked out from the "MLibrary" system has dropped 19 percent, from 8.4 million to 6.8 million. About 1 million books and periodicals have been withdrawn from the libraries' collections, with duplicate back issues of scientific and medical journals among the first to go.

Owning fewer books and periodicals has benefits that go beyond the average $4 per item the university pays in maintenance and storage fees each year. Physical space is precious at U-M, and as books are withdrawn, more space becomes available for other uses. In the Duderstadt Center on North Campus, this has meant room for production facilities for student-made films. In the undergrad library, a dona-

tion from U-M alum Bert Askwith, class of 1931, helped turn an area once devoted to bound magazines into "Bert's Café," where students line up to buy bagels, sandwiches, and coffee. (Askwith, now 101, recently dined with Courant's parents in New York.)

Polled at Bert's, only three of seven students say they frequently check out books. So what are the others doing here? "This is probably the coolest library on campus," a young woman in a Wolverine shirt says brightly. "A lot of people come here because it's so social."

Others say they come because they work harder when they're at the library, and because it eases their sense of isolation when they're studying. "I love to feel surrounded by people," says Yue Bian, a grad student in education.

There's a fairy-tale quality to the origin of the Google Books project. Former director Bill Gosling recalls how, about ten years ago, he and now associate university librarian John Wilkin shared a box lunch with Google co-founder Larry Page. The U-M engineering grad talked enthusiastically about how Google's technology could "expand access to this information [in the library system] to people all over the world." Kept under wraps while the company and university worked out the details, the project was announced in December 2004.

President Coleman professed herself "exhilarated." "We were [at the] cusp of the whole world of books going digital," says Barbara MacAdam. "It captured people's imagination."

"There had never been anything like it!" says Courant. Before the Google project kicked off, he says, the U-M had been digitizing about ten thousand books a year. Afterwards, the pace accelerated to "tens of thousands a week, sometimes, on a good day, tens of thousands a day!" (Google employees physically remove the volumes and scan them off-site). About five million books, most of the collection, have been scanned, but no end date is yet in sight.

"This is probably the coolest library on campus," a young woman in a Wolverine shirt says brightly. "A lot of people come here because it's so social."

Books published before 1922, and thus no longer copyright protected, are available in their entirety. Anyone, inside or outside the university, can read them. Most newer works are assumed to be still under copyright, and only a snippet is put online: search for "Google Books *Portnoy's Complaint*" and you'll get only the publisher's description, links to websites that discuss the Philip Roth novel, and a sampler of the most common words in the text (including bar mitzvah, Empire Burlesque, Gracie Mansion, and a number of graphic sexual terms).

Obscenities aside, this summary seems no more threatening than an old-fashioned card catalog. So what's fueling the outrage and the lawsuits? In part, growing unease about Google's power. Robert Darnton, Harvard's university librarian, protested in a *New York Review of Books* article that when the digitization project is complete, "Google will enjoy what can only be called a monopoly" in providing digitized texts. That concentration makes some people instinctively uneasy. "What if Google goes bankrupt?" asks former U-M library head Richard Dougherty. "You wonder what will happen to all that information."

But the truly incendiary questions concern authors' rights. The two Authors Guild lawsuits illuminate the complexities posed by libraries' seemingly straightforward desire to make their books available online.

The first suit, in 2005, challenged the scanning, arguing that the creation of digital copies was in itself a violation of copyright. (The Association of American Publishers filed a similar suit.) In 2008, a settlement was reached—or so everyone thought. Google agreed to pay $125 million to the authors and publishers, to sell copyrighted works on their behalf, and to fund a registry to protect authors' copyrights. But Amazon, Microsoft, Yahoo, and other companies objected, and in March of last year, the settlement was rejected by a New York federal judge.

Just five months later, Courant was blind-sided by the news that the Authors Guild was again suing the U-M, along with four other universities and HathiTrust. Organized and led by Michigan, the trust now includes more than fifty universities that have agreed to pool their online resources to create one vast shared archive. The guild's press release specifically cited the trust's announcement that it would allow faculty and students at member schools to access "orphan works" that could still be in copyright.

Michigan was "bold" to take on the Google project, says former law library director Margaret Leary. "Other libraries were nervous—they just wanted Google to do parts of their collections."

The Authors Guild shows no sign of backing down. The group recently asked New York federal judge Harold Baer to reject the schools' argument that digitization is "fair use" of copyrighted material.

It seems safe to say that at some point in the twenty-first century, the millions of works Google copied will be available in their entirety with a click of the mouse—just as Courant envisions. But there are deep differences over how that should work, and unless Congress steps in, it appears they'll have to be resolved in court.

Courant may be gone from the library by the time both cases are decided. Though his original five-year term was extended last year, he has already announced that he will step down in August 2013 to return to teaching, research, and writing.

"I'm thinking of writing a book about libraries," he says. "When you jump up and down and say, 'Hey, for a good time, come to the library,' people don't take you seriously. But that's probably the working title of my book." ■

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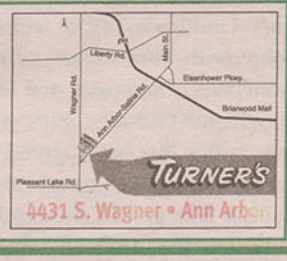

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The Allure of Baby Squirrels

Friends of Wildlife turns thirty-five

by Jan Schlain

Elena Wakeman has a husband, two kids, and a full-time job as a legal assistant. On any given day, especially in the spring, she's also looking after anywhere from two to twenty injured or orphaned squirrels.

Warm and enthusiastic, Wakeman got into rescuing squirrels eight years ago after discovering one that had been attacked by a neighbor's dog. She and her daughter "picked it up, put it in a box," she remembers, and drove home.

Before they got there, the squirrel came out of shock, jumped out of the box, and started running around their minivan. "My daughter's like, 'It's okay, Mom.'" They pulled into their driveway, got a butterfly net from the garage, and caught the squirrel. Then they called Friends of Wildlife (FOW).

A volunteer picked up the animal, treated it, and then brought it back a week later so they could enjoy seeing it released in Greenview Park. Wakeman and her daughter—who's now studying zoology and philosophy at MSU—thought that was so cool.

Wakeman became a volunteer herself, got trained, and has been rescuing, rehabbing, and releasing the furry, toothy rodents ever since. She now carries the group's "squirrel phone," taking calls from anyone who knows of a squirrel that needs help. (Six other "placement coordinators" take calls about fawns, foxes, opossums, rabbits, raccoons, and woodchucks.)

"I remember a horrific day in July when I had nineteen calls in one day," Wakeman says. "Three boxes of squirrels, each a different species, on my dryer—and my family wanting dinner." Luckily, she says, her husband "has come to like squirrels."

FOW was founded thirty-five years ago by Pat DeLong. "I think everyone has a need to contribute," she says. "We don't just come into this life and just la-di-da along. You have some kind of work that you do that you feel is important." DeLong, too, got into animal rescue by accident. She and her husband live near Dexter on a bluff overlooking the Huron River. "Raising four active, inquisitive children, wildlife was destined to be a part of our lives," she says. Seven people attended Friends of Wildlife's first official meeting. Now the group has 110 active volunteers. That's down from about 135 eight years ago, mostly because, DeLong thinks, today's economy leaves people with less time to give to volunteering.

"Once you hold a baby anything, you have a different idea of them," Elena Wakeman says. At work, her colleagues "have their pictures of their kids ... I have this [photo of a] squirrel."

The group operates on a budget of less than $7,000 a year, raised mostly in small donations from loyal supporters. And people often write a check, or give some cash, out of gratitude when an FOW volunteer responds to their call to help an animal, Wakeman says. Though she orchestrates the squirrel rescues, most of the animals are cared for by her crew of eighteen volunteers. "What's cool is they all have different levels of responsibility," she says. "For example, the people in Manchester are a couple of retired women who love the pinkies [hairless newborns]. They are the most difficult to do." When she gets pinkies, she meets the women halfway, in Fredonia. "Once their eyes open, [the women] call back and say, 'Can I get rid of them?'"

One of the inconveniences of the work is sharing one's living space with wild animals. Wakeman houses squirrels in her garage, in a large cage in her backyard, and in her laundry room. She likes the laundry room best because it's all white, which allows her to see any parasites that come inside with the animals. Fortunately, she's not a good host for squirrel parasites: "They just bite me and die."

For Wakeman, the worst part of animal rescue is "when you're learning and you accidentally kill an animal." It happened for her when a more experienced rehabber advised her to give a baby squirrel "different food, like banana or avocado, to prevent cage boredom. I thought, because I cut everything else up, I [should also] cut the banana up—and this poor little baby female choked on the banana!" Wakeman felt horrible. Now, she says, she feels she owes it to other squirrels to heal and take care of them. "Once you hold a baby anything, you have a different idea of them," she explains. At work, her colleagues "have their pictures of their kids ... I have this [photo of a] squirrel."

Wakeman says she has had a lot more success reuniting wildlife moms with their babies since FOW switched from pagers to more reliable cell phones. The Internet has also made it easier for people to find FOW—sometimes too easy. Some people who discover friendsofwildlife.net "don't even look at where you're at!" she says. "This lady got us, said she had this squirrel and it had a lot of maggots in the ears. I said, 'I'm sorry to tell you this, but it needs to be euthanized. It is suffering.' Then it dawned on me—it was March! A baby, with fur?"

"Where are you calling from?" Wakeman asked. "She said, 'Fresno.' I said, 'California?' She said, 'Yeah!'"

People call FOW after finding injured animals on roadsides, and babies in nests in cars (the squeaking sound one woman heard turned out to be baby squirrels in her air filter), under boat covers, and in Old West Side garages. "We get so many calls from students," Wakeman says. They "find them in the Law Quad, around the Diag."

She says rescuing squirrels works well for her because her neighborhood already has a lot of them. "My neighbors would kill me if I did raccoons and opossums and released them in the neighborhood."

If she moved to the country, Wakeman says, she would still want to work with FOW, but she'd consider switching to rabbits. "They would cost less. All [a rabbit] eats is clover, dandelion greens, and water." And "if it hops, you can let it go."

But while she might switch species, "it would be hard to stop doing this," she says. "I don't think of it as a hobby. I think of it as a vocation or a profession now."

Wakeman and her fellow rehabbers are the kind of people who make organizations like FOW survive and run smoothly—and make the world a better place. What may come as a surprise is that by saving animals, they sometimes save people, too.

"There was this couple in Ypsi—he was a lawyer," says Wakeman. "He [called and] said, 'There is a squirrel in our fireplace. It watches TV with us. I don't know how it got in there, but it won't leave.'

"So I said, 'I can't help you because we are not a remove-the-animal service. We are rescue/rehab/release.' He goes, 'All right,' and hangs up.

"He didn't want to pay anybody [to remove a healthy squirrel]. So he lit a fire in the fireplace, and heard squealing. It was trapped. Then he called me back. 'Well, now it's burned,' he said."

She doesn't like to think he hurt the animal deliberately. But whatever his motives, hers were clear. She told him, "Now I can help you."

Wakeman drove back to Ypsi, picked up the squirrel, and named it Cinder. "I had it for a while," she says, while it healed. But by the time she released it, "it was fine." ■

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Dining Out

Alfresco at Mark's Carts and the Black Elks

Spring sprang early this year, hurtling us into the season with a jackrabbit start. Restaurant tables usually stored until May began dotting sidewalks in March, and diners regularly populated them for lunch in April. Ann Arbor's outdoor dining season is in full swing now, and this year we have some new spots to consider.

Taking advantage of the early spring, Mark's Carts opened at the end of March with an altered, expanded lineup from last year. Eat, of course, now has a brick-and-mortar shop on Packard, but several outfits—Darcy's Cart, Debajo del Sol, the Lunch Room, Hut-K Chaats, and San Street—have returned, along with three new ventures. Cheese Dream features grilled cheese sandwiches, the Beet Box healthy options, and Ann Arbor Pizza Pi mini-pizzas.

Looking over Cheese Dream's list of sandwiches in April, I wished for a more imaginative selection of cheeses and spreads. Of course tradition requires the Old School, made with gooey American cheese slices, but the other options didn't stretch beyond aged cheddar, Monterey jack, Swiss, and mozzarella, with only slightly more creative spreads (corn relish, bacon, tapenade). That said, I enjoyed the Frenchie, its filling of Swiss cheese and caramelized onions cooked with beef stock successfully imitating French onion soup's luxurious topping.

Zingerman's challah is the bread for all of Cheese Dream's sandwiches. I've always found it rather insipid, but as my companion pointed out, it grills up beautifully and nearly mimics, in a more interesting fashion, the soft bread of an American diner-style grilled cheese sandwich. Still, I would appreciate the option of a crustier, chewier white bread or a multigrain loaf. Cheese Dream also makes tasty soups, and I trust that, with time, owners Jordan Ceresnie and Afrim Ramaxhiku will broaden their sandwich selection.

Started by a group of U-M students, the Beet Box serves what it calls "Strong Food." From what I could understand from the group's blog, they want to promote local, seasonal, healthy food, prepared simply and tastefully. While I don't deny the importance of health in selecting and preparing our food, the Strong Food Combo reminded me of the under-seasoned, overcooked "hippie" food my husband made when we first met: chunks of chile-lime chicken breast, tough, dry, and bland, resting on a bed of mushy, vaguely fiery beans and brown rice and topped with kale chips that tasted like burnt paper. The roasted-beet quinoa and roasted "sunrise" cauliflower on the side proved surprisingly bland, despite an avalanche of crumbled feta and dried fruit. The beet lemonade,

lightly sweetened scarlet-colored water, left me wondering where the lemons and beets had gone. Beet Box's food wasn't so much bad as boring. After slogging through my combo, I packed the rest to take home to my husband. Then I rewarded myself with a Mexican chocolate cookie from the Lunch Room. Rich, spicy, soft, with a crunchy raw sugar topping, it was fabulous.

Employing a 650-pound, wood-burning oven standing next to his cart, Ann Arbor Pizza Pi owner Nick Wilkinson bakes 8"to 9" cracker-thin crispy pizzas in just minutes. Although not substantial enough alone to satisfy a hearty appetite, these pizzas have a delicious crust and well-proportioned, nicely composed toppings, ranging from a standard Margherita to my preference, the Aroooogula: goat cheese, mozzarella, spicy pepper, olive oil, balsamic syrup, and, obviously, arugula. Of Mark's three new carts, this was my overwhelming favorite.

The James L. Crawford Elks Lodge, a historic African American club on Sunset Rd., has without argument the best outdoor dining spot in the city—a massive stone porch high on a hill overlooking a sloping expanse of shady lawn and downtown Ann Arbor. It's a site you might dream about for a wedding, a family reunion, or a graduation or anniversary party, and three nights a week—Thursday through Saturday—the porch, along with the funky basement bar and recreation room, is open to the general public for dinner and music.

Though friendly and neighborly, the Elks Lodge is a private club welcoming the community into its home; business doesn't follow a polished Main Street pattern. On our first visit, we followed the stairs leading from the parking lot, entered the building's rear door, and almost immediately encountered the kitchen. After some confusion, we realized we needed to order and pay for dinner—cash only—at the tiny counter inside the kitchen door. (The kitchen operates as a separate entity within the club, so payment is kept distinct from the bar, but the staff graciously delivers your meal to wherever you sit.) The kitchen personnel then directed us down more steps to the convivial basement bar, a trophy of 1950s design, where, from the bartender and the members occupying the stools, we received conflicting information on whether nonmembers could order hard liquor or only wine and beer. Everyone agreed, however, that we again needed cash to pay for the drinks. Across from the horseshoe bar, at the edge of the oddly configured and claustrophobic rec room, more storage area than dining room, a jazz trio played (see Nightspots, p. 52).

The Elks Neighborhood Kitchen is run by Kelli Harden. Her menu, designed in collaboration with club members, consists of soul-food mainstays: smoky, meaty, barbecued ribs, buttermilk fried chicken, fried catfish, po' boys, beans and rice, silky collard greens, black-eyed peas, tangy slaw, and scrumptious mac and cheese. Harden took great care with all the food, and we found everything fresh and delicious. Our only complaint was that she cut the catfish fillets into smallish pieces before frying, increasing the ratio of crispy coating but rendering the flesh into generic fried food rather than tasty fried fish. We finished dinner with a final highlight, warm chocolate-chip cookies, which Harden bakes to order. (If you don't want to wait, you can order the cookies when your dinner arrives.)

That first night, when it was still winter, we ate at the bar, but on our second visit we enjoyed the ambience of the grand old porch, pulling on our jackets and lingering over our warm cookies as the city's lights blinked on. Once finished, we wandered back down to the bar to listen to that evening's band, appreciating the lodge's hospitality in sharing its lovely home with the community.

ILLUSTRATIONS: JOHN COPLEY

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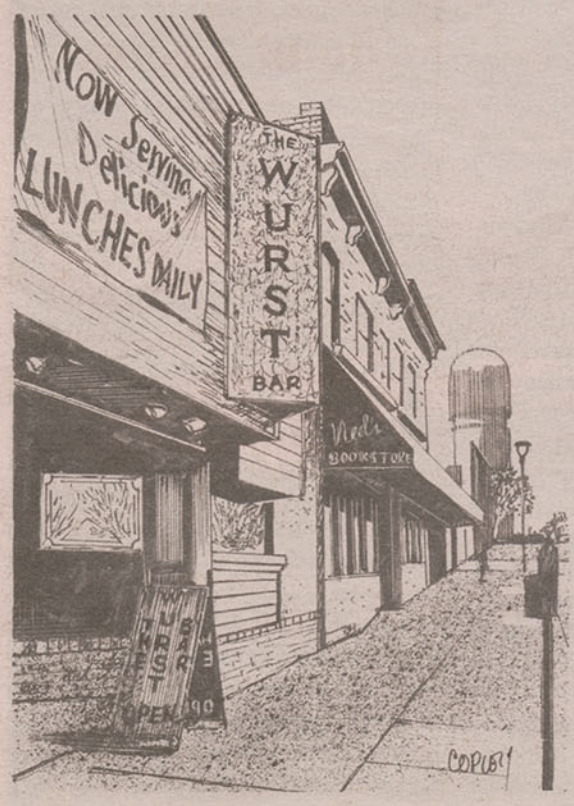
Wurst Bar

Superior sausage

Don't let the *sound* of the place's name—Wurst Bar—fool you. It's not the worst spot; it's not even a bad one. In fact, the Wurst Bar, located on Cross St. in Ypsilanti, is a surprisingly good neighborhood restaurant inside a campy campus sports bar.

The scene changes, depending on the time of day and the day of the week. At one late-winter Friday lunch the bartender and I were the only females in the place, the tables populated by burly guys with beards and bellies, fleece and flannel. For much of a leisurely Sunday lunch, my family sat alone until we were eventually joined by two or three quiet couples. After high winds left the area without electricity for two days, the bar served a limited menu to an eclectic Saturday night crowd of all ages and affiliations. Tuesday night bingo brings in EMU students, a convention of kids with artificially elongated earlobes and tattooed figures crawling up their necks and down their arms onto fingers that play with smartphones, and Wednesday is a crowded Trivia Night after 8. The scene can be as diverting as the food, though the room—despite its tomato-red chandeliers and antler pendants, semi-circular booths, and high-top tables—feels a bit more warehouse-y than warm and inviting.



A noun rather than an adjective, the bar's name reflects its menu's focus—sausage. Made in-house, these links, whether traditional or exotic, are seriously good. Although I didn't sample all the many possibilities, each one I tried proved well made and uniquely seasoned, from the delicate rabbit and fig link to the robust duck and turkey option. A special "umami" bratwurst evoked the Asian accents of oyster and fish sauces, while the spicy Italian underlined bold, full flavors, as also did the North African–inflected bison-and-lamb *merguez*. Surprising me with its rich, juicy savor, heavily flecked with coriander seed, the poached PBR (as in Pabst Blue Ribbon) bratwurst triumphed as my favorite sausage. I don't think I've had a better bratwurst.

The sausages don't come unadorned. You choose a brioche or pretzel bun, made by Zingerman's Bakehouse, and as many as you like of their house-made toppings—crunchy sauerkraut, kimchi-kraut, sautéed onions or peppers, and spicy pepper relish. All are delicious. For condiments, lines of mustards march down the tables. To accompany your sausage, you can order regular or sweet potato tater tots, or a mix of both. Though not made in-house, the tots are still a fun alternative to fries or chips, but skip the cinnamon-spiced marshmallow fluff that tags along with the sweet potato ones; even my sister, a connoisseur of gunked-up sweet potato casseroles, found it too dessert-like.

Absolutely ask about the day's salad. I hadn't expected much in the way of greens at a bar, but we enjoyed two well-conceived and -executed salads at the Wurst. The first, shredded romaine with beets, grapefruit, and goat cheese, was light and refreshing; the other, the same lettuce with toasted pecans, bread crumbs, and a creamy garlic dressing, simultaneously stimulated and satiated the appetite. I wish more of the area's higher-end restaurants offered such inventive salads. My

only complaint concerned how they were served, in small cardboard boats rather than on real plates, making them awkward to eat.

For vegetarians, the menu lists two meatless links, and the special board usually posts a vegetarian burger. I confess to ignoring the meatless options, but based on the quality of the other food, I would guess that vegetarians, too, would be happy at the Wurst Bar.

Regular burgers, ground in-house from brisket and short ribs, some with inventive toppings, offer another alternative to sausages. My husband skipped the Nut burger, embellished with cheddar, bacon, and peanut butter, and the Wurst burger, a patty stacked with a brat, instead zooming in on the Southerner, topped with fried green tomato, bacon, and pimento cheese. Oddly, the kitchen doesn't take temperature preferences and cooks all burgers to medium-well. When pressed, the waiter mumbled something about kitchen efficiency and spiced, well-marbled meat maintaining a juicy patty. Since other busy bars with tiny kitchens—Casey's, Red Hawk—have managed to cook burgers to temperature for years, I hope the Wurst Bar will eventually change its policy and make that tasty Southerner a real winner by cooking it as requested—in our case, to medium-rare.

Every bar should have some snacks, and the Wurst doesn't fail. I'm not sure why—maybe because we were worried about having room for a link afterward—but we never tried the nacho tots or their vegetarian counterpart; judging from the rest of the food, I imagine they would be a great way to soak up a cocktail or several of the artisan beers available. We did try the house-made curry wurst mini–corn dogs—three fat chunks of sausage on sticks encased in a thin, light, crispy cornmeal batter and served with a side of pimento cheese—a new and wonderfully improved rendition of the county fair standard. An order of the corn dogs with a salad could easily suffice for my dinner, finished off with a plate of mochi orbs, sticky rice cake–encased ice cream balls, chewy and creamy. Though not made in-house, they are a clever and luscious bar sweet.

In terms of eating, then, the Wurst Bar might be better known as the Best Bar, at least for us sausage- and burger-lovers. Living in semi-rural Superior Township north of Ypsilanti, my husband and I have often wished for a reliable local joint where we could get a quick, delicious meal with a beer or glass of wine. The Wurst Bar richly satisfies that wish.

—Lee Lawrence

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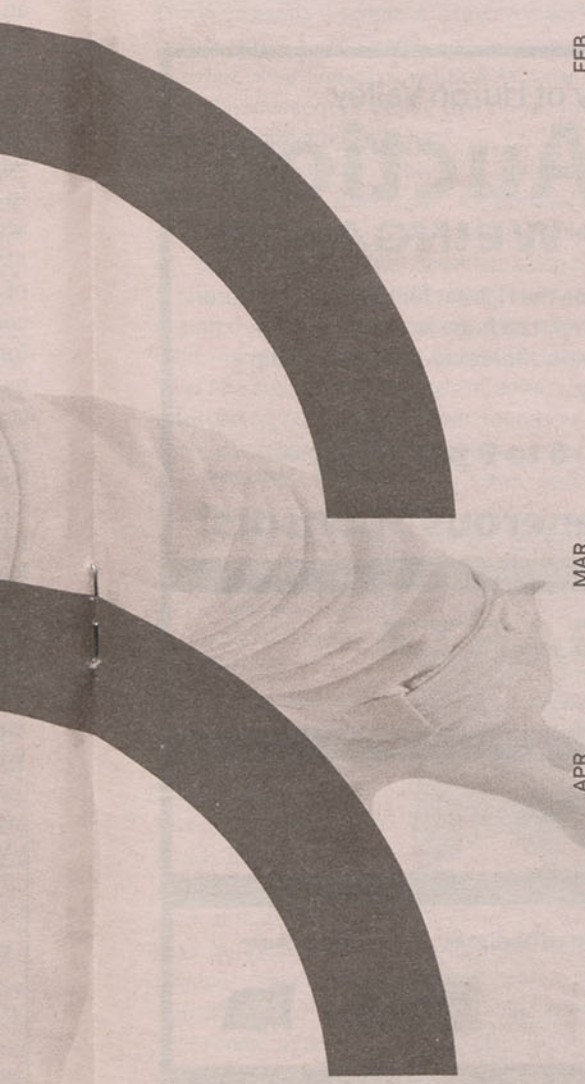
SEP	21–22	Kidd Pivot Frankfurt RM: *The Tempest Replica*	Power Center
	27	Chicago Symphony Orchestra Riccardo Muti, conductor	Hill Auditorium
	28–29	Suzhou Kun Opera Theater of Jiangsu Province	Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre
OCT	4	Basiani	St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
	5	Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán	Hill Auditorium
	6–7	Aspen Santa Fe Ballet	Power Center
	10	Jerusalem Quartet	Rackham Auditorium
	11–13	Théâtre de la Ville: Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*	Power Center
	20	Murray Perahia, piano	Hill Auditorium
	27	Mariinsky Orchestra of St. Petersburg Valery Gergiev, conductor	Hill Auditorium
NOV	11	Belcea Quartet	Rackham Auditorium
	16	Gilberto Gil	Hill Auditorium
	17	Dave Holland Big Band	Michigan Theater
DEC	1–2	Handel's *Messiah*	Hill Auditorium
	8	Dianne Reeves Quartet with special guest Raul Midón	Hill Auditorium
JAN	8–13	National Theatre of Scotland: *The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart*	Corner Brewery (Ypsilanti)
	13	Detroit Symphony Orchestra Leonard Slatkin, conductor	Hill Auditorium
	17–18	Gabriel Kahane & Friends	Arthur Miller Theater
	21	From Cass Corridor to the World: A Tribute to Detroit's Musical Golden Age	Hill Auditorium
	25–26	Martha Graham Dance Company	Power Center
	31	Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis	Hill Auditorium
FEB	1	Angélique Kidjo	Hill Auditorium
	2	New Century Chamber Orchestra Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, violin and leader	Rackham Auditorium
	9	Berlin Philharmonic Woodwind Quintet with Martin Katz, piano	Rackham Auditorium
	14	The King's Singers	St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
	15	Kodo	Hill Auditorium
	16	Amjad Ali Khan, sarod	Hill Auditorium
	17	Handel's *Radamisto* The English Concert and David Daniels, countertenor	Hill Auditorium
	20–24	Propeller: Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and *The Taming of the Shrew*	Power Center
	23–24	New York Philharmonic Alan Gilbert, conductor	Hill Auditorium
MAR	13	Artemis Quartet	Rackham Auditorium
	14	Anne-Sophie Mutter, violin	Hill Auditorium
	16	Yo-Yo Ma and The Silk Road Ensemble	Hill Auditorium
	23	Hamid Al-Saadi Iraqi Maqam Ensemble and Amir ElSaffar's Two Rivers	Hill Auditorium
APR	4	Darius Milhaud's Oresteian Trilogy University Symphony Orchestra UMS Choral Union & U-M School of Music Choral Ensembles Kenneth Kiesler, conductor	Hill Auditorium
	6	Esperanza Spalding Radio Music Society	Michigan Theater
	10–14	1927: *The Animals and Children Took to the Streets*	Performance Network
	12	Takács Quartet	Rackham Auditorium
	18	Bobby McFerrin: *SpiritYouAll*	Hill Auditorium
	20	Alison Balsom, trumpet, and the Scottish Ensemble	Hill Auditorium
	24	Ragamala Dance: *Sacred Earth*	Power Center
	27–28	SITI Company: *Trojan Women (after Euripides)*	Power Center



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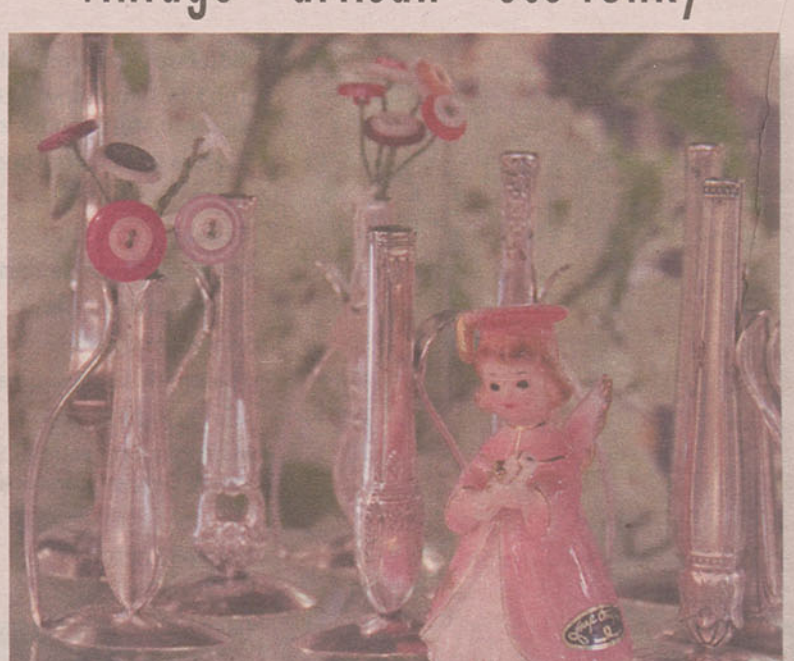

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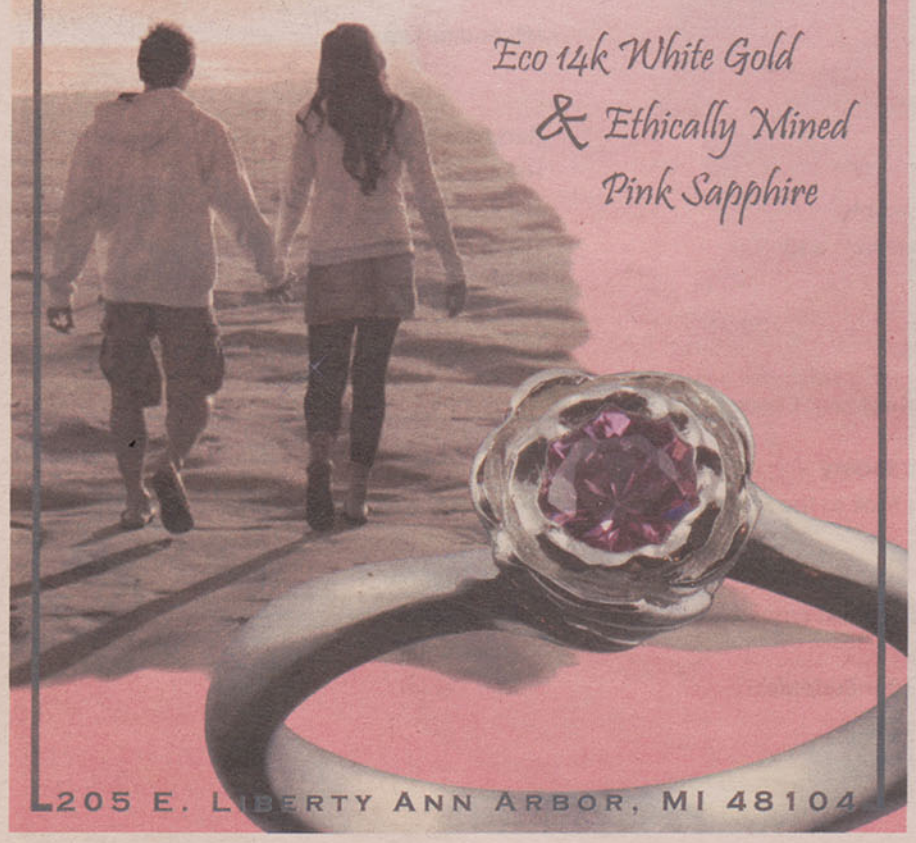

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Marketplace Changes

by Sally Mitani

Are College Bookstores Doomed?

With Michigan Book gone, that is the question.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

The bankrupt Nebraska Book chain, which closed Michigan Book & Supply in March, also owns Ulrich's across the Diag.

Michigan Book & Supply closed in March, leaving two campus textbook stores standing: Ulrich's and Barnes & Noble @ the University of Michigan. Ulrich's isn't out of danger: like Michigan Book, it's owned by the Nebraska Book Company, which is in Chapter 11 bankruptcy. A much smaller competitor, Shaman Drum, whose textbook division served mostly the humanities, folded in 2009.

That's a lot of textbook carnage in a short time. With B&N's lease for its Michigan Union store up for renewal this year, the question needs to be asked: is there a future for the local college textbook store?

It was Karl Pohrt, owner of Shaman Drum, who first alerted Ann Arbor that textbook stores were in crisis. In an open letter to the community in 2009, he claimed that "it's impossible for local textbook stores to compete." Saving Shaman Drum instantly became a cause for several hundred U-M faculty and concerned citizens, who signed a petition bemoaning "the university's policy that favors Internet shopping by students."

The "university policy" was the 2008 Higher Education Opportunity Act. HEOA is, among other things, a kind of "truth in advertising" law that obliges universities to disclose titles and prices of required textbooks early rather than a few days before classes begin, so that students won't be stuck with hundreds of dollars in unexpected fees. But as Pohrt found out, early disclosure tempted students to shop for textbooks online—even when local store prices were competitive.

Just how many students are making Amazon their textbook supplier these days? And was that what brought Nebraska Book Company to bankruptcy?

Ulrich's staff is not allowed to answer such questions, and the Nebraska Books media line didn't return calls. Brad Braun, Barnes & Noble's local manager of textbook sales, says he as yet has no official news about whether the company will renew its lease in the Michigan Union. But Braun was happy to discuss the textbook industry from his vantage point—and, full of plans for the future, he certainly didn't sound as though his store was going anywhere.

Braun doesn't see HEOA as an enemy: "The biggest challenge that all textbook dealers have is getting the information from the faculty early enough to deal with it properly. Getting it the week before classes start doesn't help anyone."

Nor is he particularly concerned about the Internet, because Barnes & Noble *is* the Internet. The college division's e-trade platform is solid and user friendly, and it doesn't deal only in new books. With 600 stores nationwide (compared to Nebraska's 240 stores), B&N can maintain a large enough used-book inventory to compete with Amazon.

Another e-threat to textbook sales is the e-book itself, but B&N is on that one too. The company has developed Nook Study; the free Mac- or PC-compatible software is one of the major publishing formats for e-textbooks. Nook Study is not the same as B&N's Nook e-reader, emphasizes Braun: "The Nook, and that other one that starts with a *K*, are for pleasure reading. I love my Nook, but I wouldn't want to read a textbook on it." Nook Study runs on regular computers, but not on mobile devices such as the Nook or Kindle.

E-textbooks and course packs, Braun says, haven't killed the old-fashioned textbook. "There are very few courses that *don't* use a [print] book in some form or another, whether it's the two-inch-thick chemistry book, or a smaller book to supplement a course pack."

Textbooks fill about half of the store in the Michigan Union. The other half, says store manager Cheryl Hollowood, is "spirit gear" (translation: maize and blue sweatshirts and T-shirts), pens and notebooks, and ... more books! Hollowood says the store's selection of trade books—especially cookbooks and children's books, "the books people most like to put their hands on"—will soon be expanded to fill the vacuum left by Borders.

Barnes & Noble @ the University of Michigan, 530 S. State St. (Michigan Union), 995–8877. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Sun. umichigan.bncollege.com

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

By creatively shuffling Chinese characters and English anagrams, Frank Zhong invented a restaurant name that works in both Chinese and English.

Emerald City to Ypbor Yan

A leisure palace treasure banquet party

Last year, Frank Zhong bought **Emerald City,** the Chinese restaurant on the strip of Washtenaw between Ypsi and Ann Arbor. Originally from Zigong, Sichuan (aka Szechuan), Zhong owns restaurants in Detroit, Midland, and Lansing. The Trizest Restaurant Group, as the collection is called, claims to serve highly authentic Sichuan food. Zhong, who used to live in Midland, has now moved to the area and is the restaurant's head chef; he also occasionally teaches classes in Sichuan cookery at the Turner Senior Resource Center.

Zhong and his staff speak very little English, which makes for a tough interview but augurs well for the "authentic Sichuan" claim. Some of the items on the "authentic Chinese dishes" section of the menu seem hair-raisingly unfamiliar, like

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Marketplace Changes

"pig's blood curd with hot bean sauce."

These changes might have gone unnoticed—the big square restaurant, whose entrance in the back is a gentle, pretty contrast to the roaring Washtenaw strip in front, remains unchanged—except that earlier this year the sign out front suddenly proclaimed the restaurant's name to be **Ypbor Yan.** The name change seems a little tentative: a large neon sign on the restaurant itself stills reads Emerald City, and so do the menus.

"Ypbor Yan" doesn't sound or look like any of the familiar pinyin Chinese syllables we Westerners are accustomed to. But this may be the only Chinese restaurant in town that actually tries to meld its Chinese name with its English name.

Ypbor Yan is a partial anagram of Ypsi–Ann Arbor. Zhong says this is intentional—but also that the yp, bor, and yan are real Chinese characters. He, the cashier, and the waitress pointed to the Chinese characters on the cover of the menu and argued energetically about their English translations: "keeping people happy," "life," and "party" were some of the suggestions. Eric Kung, former owner of Emerald City, happened to stop by and joined in the game, translating the syllables as "palace," "treasure," and "banquet." It felt like it was time to call for help.

Frances Wang, sometime writer for the Observer, explains that the Chinese characters in question are actually yi, bao, and yan. Massage them slightly and you get the anagrammatic yp bor yan. It makes even more sense, she says, when you take into account that "in Chinese, Ypsilanti is pronounced yi-si-lan-ti, and Ann Arbor is pronounced ann-ah-bao."

In Wang's translation, the characters together mean something like "leisure treasure banquet." She adds that Chinese restaurants often have Chinese names that are unrelated to their English names—for instance, Asian Legend's Chinese name is actually "Old Familiar Place." Ypbor Yan is unique for having—as much as possible—made the Chinese and English name one.

Wang, who was delighted with the clever linguistic game being played once she was alerted to it, admits that it initially went over her head. She had heard the new name and thought it sounded like a Mexican restaurant.

Ypbor Yan, 4905 Washtenaw Ave., 434–7978. Mon.–Thurs. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Sun. noon–9 p.m. www.usbgfood.com

Burn Notice

The smoke shop trend catches fire.

In the last half-decade we've seen restaurant smoking outlawed and medicinal marijuana legalized. Hookahs and cigars seem to hover on the fringes of trendiness—now they're in, now they're

out. All told, the smokers' situation has gotten more complex, and smoke shops have stepped into the breach.

Three new smoke shops have staked out territory in the last several months, though one of them is already out of business.

Nick Kamouni, thirty-nine, whose most recent business venture was a dollar store in Detroit, opened the **Smoke Station** in March. He lives in Farmington but has long been coming to Ann Arbor for football games. When he spotted the For Lease sign on the former Metro PCS store next to Banfield's, he says, "I told the landlord to give me a week to study the area. I didn't know what I was going to open."

A friend suggested a smoke shop, and Kamouni liked the idea. Unlike a convenience store or a gas station, "You don't have to stay open at night. Nothing good happens at night," he laughs.

The Smoke Station sells about every form of tobacco, as well as paraphernalia and related items: cigarettes, cigars, incense, glass pipes, hookahs, ashtrays, lighters, air fresheners, breath fresheners, and munchies. But the bread and butter of smoke shops these days—now that brand-name packs of cigarettes like Marlboro sell for $6.25 and up—are bags of roll-your-own loose-leaf tobacco. Kamouni says a $17 bag of it will make a few cartons' worth of cigarettes. He also sells the "tubes" to stuff it into—they look like filtered cigarettes lacking only the filling—explaining that "most people also have machines to insert the tobacco." His machines sell from $40 to $90 depending on whether they're hand cranked or battery powered.

Smoke Station, 3130 Packard Rd., 929–2544. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m.–7 p.m. No website.

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Wild Bill's Tobacco is scheduled to open April 30—building inspections permitting—on West Stadium, in the same building as Dimo's Deli and Donuts, says retail support manager Justin Simona, who oversees new store openings for the Michigan chain. Started by Simona's family in 1994 in Roseville, the company is expanding at a rate that, if the website is to be believed, is almost literally exponential. About forty stores are open across Michigan, and another thirty are "coming soon."

Despite all those Simonas on the payroll (there are six listed in the roll call of phone extensions), Wild Bill, says Simona, "is not your ordinary Mom and Pop tobacco shop. We specialize in premium cigars. We have a walk-in humidor, with the kind of Spanish cedar paneling and humidification system you'll see in New York or Chicago. We're a 'tobacconist'—that's the word we like to use," he says, distancing himself a little from the bong and incense end of the business. "But we do sell cigarettes, loose tobacco, hookah tobacco."

Some Wild Bill's shops have a tobacco retail specialty store license, which allows patrons to smoke on the premises, but this store will not. Tobacco stores, as long as they don't sell food, are eligible for such a license, but Simona says that in practice, since the passage of the Michigan Smoke Free law, they've become as difficult to acquire as liquor licenses.

Wild Bill's Tobacco, 2026 W. Stadium, no phone yet. Probable hours: Mon.–Sat. 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. www.wildbillstobacco.com

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While the Simonas' locations multiply, Mohamad Khan exited the business almost as quickly as he entered it. In early March, a big red and white banner announcing "Now Open—**Quick Smoke**" hung from the eaves of Lamp Post Plaza over the space that used to be an antiques store. But where was it? Beneath the sign was an empty shop.

A couple of regular customers, accustomed to strolling over a few times a week for a nicotine fix, stood outside scratching their heads, insisting it had been there a few days ago. A clerk in a nearby shop wasn't surprised it closed. He pointed across the parking lot to the Better Health vitamin store and Trader Joe's, and suggested Lamp Post Plaza might draw a different sort of clientele.

The next day Khan stood outside, forlornly watching the last of Quick Smoke's furniture being loaded into a PTO Thrift Shop van. He confirmed that Quick Smoke, which he said stocked hookahs and glass pipes as well as more prosaic cigarettes and chewing gum, opened late last year and hadn't been a success. He had never owned a store before and didn't know what he was going to do next.

Briefly Noted

Arborland hasn't yet found anyone to fill Borders' shoes, but down at the east end of Arborland the last year has been a busy one.

Arborland's mini-mall with the Starbucks on one end now has **America's Best** opticians as the other bookend. It used to be in the middle. Manager Baise David says **Five Guys Burgers and Fries** will open in June in America's Best's old spot.

Another new tenant in the middle of that mini-mall, between Coldstone Creamery and Noodles & Company, is the **Sleep Number** bed store that used to be in Briarwood. Manager Chris Berghuis says it's above his pay grade to speculate on why the store moved. "Location is one of those corporate things—they do all the studies and make the decisions." But he did allow that the new store is nearly three times the size of the Briarwood space. "Our old location didn't have room to display all the bed models. And I like [the new spot]. I like Noodles & Company."

What Berghuis can do is demonstrate the product. A tour through the Sleep Number bed store is kind of like a trip to the Hands-On Museum, except you can lie down. Push buttons, and the mattresses move up and down. Walk around, look in display cases, and there are other things to squeeze, stroke, and marvel at, like the fabric (full of "nanotubes") that magically

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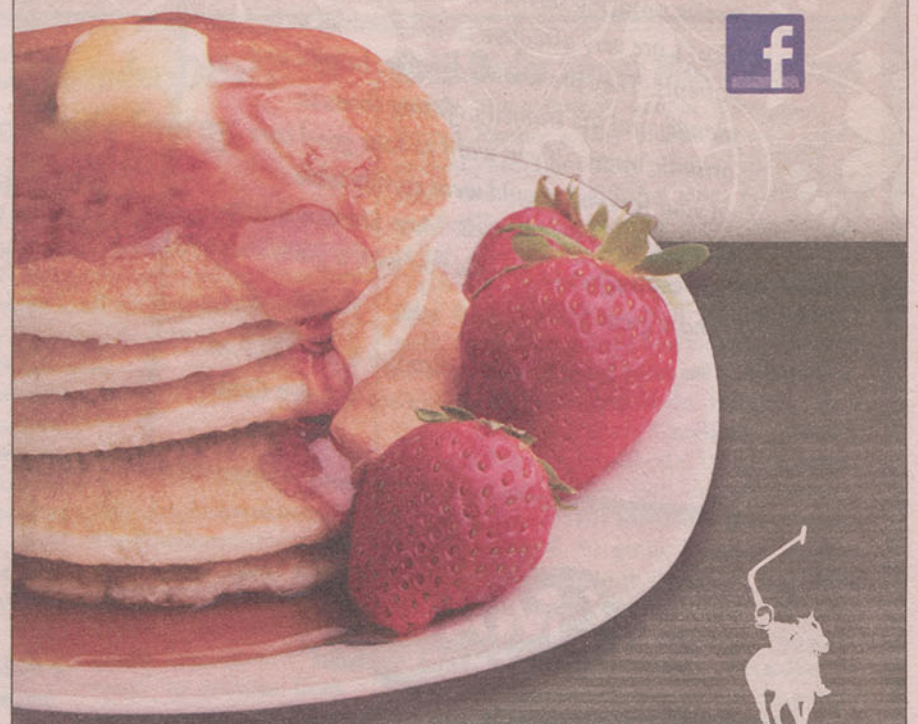

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Arbor-Ypsi Foot & Ankle Center has enjoyed a wonderful relationship with Mast Shoes for over a decade. The patients we refer to Mast Shoes receive amazing service. The caring staff at Mast's are very attentive to the needs of our patients. They are knowledgeable, helpful and friendly and are trained in fitting shoes to orthotic inserts. If you want to take good care of your feet you should wear comfortable quality shoes that fit well. Mast Shoes will take the extra effort to provide you with a great shoe and a great fit!

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Marketplace Changes

disperses heat and always feels cool to the touch, and sheets with actual silver filaments woven in that supposedly have antibiotic properties.

America's Best, 3601 Washtenaw Ave. (Arborland), 973–1969. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–7p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 11:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. www.twopair.com

Sleep Number, 3597 Washtenaw Ave. (Arborland), 668–2035. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. sleepnumber.com

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Nearby, next to Arhaus, **Jos. A. Bank** opened last August. It's just now entering its high season, when graduating seniors begin hitting menswear departments everywhere to buy suits for job interviews, and manager Ashley Wexler is looking forward to helping them.

"I started out dressing my brother, and helped all his guy friends," says Wexler, who majored in marketing at CMU. The tiny, trim twenty-six-year-old loves men's clothing and looks like she'd be wearing it herself if Jos. A. Bank carried her size. She's wearing elegant, severely tailored trousers and a sweater in shades of slate and charcoal gray. (She says she buys her own clothes at Ann Taylor.)

Though abbreviated, "Jos." is always pronounced "Joseph," and Wexler says even most first-time customers seem to know that. "They often say 'Joseph! A! Bank!' when they come in," imitating the measured, stentorian tones of the store's television commercials. Jos. A. Bank is over a hundred years old, with 550 stores nationwide.

Wexler explains how she helps young men who are often buying their first suit, or at least "their first grown-up suit," put together a look for a job interview. She begins by taking measurements and establishing a size, then asks what field the customer is in. If you're a doctor, she says, you don't even need a suit. "Believe me, I know. My father's a doctor. They're in scrubs all the time. A doctor going to an interview can wear a sports jacket."

For a hypothetical accountant, she pulls a black suit with a subtle herringbone weave off the rack, then slides a white shirt under it and selects a black tie with tiny white dots. When our hypothetical accountant complains that it's a little too grim, even for him, she substitutes a burgundy-and-charcoal striped tie. For another hypothetical customer ("I'm going to say he's artsy"), she chooses a glen plaid suit with a faint blue stripe, a blue shirt, and a black, gray, and blue paisley tie. Both ensembles would run about $1,000 at full price, but Jos. A. Bank, as its TV commercials make clear, is all about sales.

Wexler will even choose socks, belts, and shoes if the customer wants. She'll discuss types of collars, knots, and the merits of two-button versus three-button. And of course, it's also prom season, with wedding season on its heels, and Jos. A. Bank rents and sells tuxes too.

Jos. A. Bank, 3783 Washtenaw Ave. (Arborland), 973–0013. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. www.josbank.com

Closings

Blue House, the craft studio and consignment gallery across the street from Michigan Stadium, still exists in a virtual kind of way, but the blue house for which it was named has been sold and will become rental property.

Siobhan Lyle opened Blue House in 2010. The house, property of her husband's family, had long ceased to be a home: it was zoned commercial. She lovingly restored the interior to a pristine, Shaker-like simplicity and used it as a place to teach simple, homespun crafts like sewing, knitting, and collage.

Lyle was out of town and didn't respond to email messages, but according to its website, Blue House is now Blue House Mobile Craft Studio. Lyle will now help you design a crafty party or workshop and bring it to your house.

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Maru, the homey Korean restaurant in the shadow of the fourteen-story Zaragon West construction on East William, closed suddenly sometime in January, and owner Duck Ki Hong left without saying goodbye. None of the neighboring restaurants knew what happened. An owner of a nearby Chinese restaurant said she assumed he had closed for Chinese New Year, and then some weeks later realized he must be gone for good. A sign on the door says "under construction," and one of the windows is boarded up. Inside, the tables, chairs, and cash register—even the dishes—are undisturbed.

Chang Lee, owner of Korean restaurant Arirang in Village Centre, says there's no real mystery. In 2007, when Duck Ki Hong, who was then a cook at Arirang, bought the restaurant (then Seoul Korner), the business had a five-year nonrenewable lease on it. The lease is up, and Hong is now back cooking at Arirang.

Lee says no one knows seems to know what Maru's landlord, Chun Mi Han, intends to do with the property. Han, who left the area in 2010, now lives in Washington state.

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Emerald Dragonfly, the pretty little nature-themed gift shop and art gallery across from Zingerman's, has moved out of the space. "Watch our website" says the sign on the door, but the website doesn't say if there will be another bricks-and-mortar location. Owners Joe and Deb Kirk had the online store earthessenceshop.com before they opened their Ann Arbor storefront and will continue to do business on it. They didn't return a call.

Got a retail or restaurant change? Email sallymitani@gmail.com, or leave voicemail at 769–3175, ext. 309.

The Zingerman's Times

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Cheese of the Month
Little Napoleon

The little goat cheese with a big complex! Excellent on crusty French bread, toast points or crackers and goes well with just a touch of sweet, like a fig jam or chutney.

$5.99/ea. reg $7.99

May Roaster's Pick
Peru Andes Reserve

This coffee features flavors of sweet summer melon with a hint of brightness in the finish. Exceptionally well balanced with an almost creamy mouthfeel, this unique brew comes from a breathtaking region of Peru filled with coffee producing communities along the slopes of the Andes Mountains.

Bread of the Month
Jewish Rye

Hailed as "America's very best rye" by Jan and Michael Stern in *Saveur* magazine. Made the old fashioned, traditional way, with plenty of rye flour, a natural sour starter, and lots of time.

$4.50/loaf reg. $6.25

Zingerman's Roadhouse	2501 Jackson Rd. 734.663.3663
Zingerman's Delicatessen	422 Detroit St. 734.663.3354
Zingerman's Catering and Events	422 Detroit St. 734.663.3400
Zingerman's Bakehouse	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.761.2095
Zingerman's Mail Order	610 Phoenix Dr. 888.636.8162
ZingTrain	PO Box 1837 734.930.1919
Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.0500
Zingerman's Coffee Company	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.6060
Zingerman's Candy Manufactory	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.277.1922

www.Zingermans.com

Zingerman's CAMP BACON

one of a kind event for campers who say "i am curious, bacon"

3rd Annual Camp Bacon Aims to Cement Ann Arbor's Status as "Bacon Capital of the Midwest"; Proceeds Benefit Southern Foodways Alliance

Amidst a summer full of arts and sports camps, one exclusive event is drawing a special breed of camper. Tamworth, Berkshire, Duroc and other heritage hogs are joining the nation's foremost bacon-makers, chefs, musicians, poets, and historians along with bacon lovers from around the country for a unique four-day celebration of cured and smoked meat at Zingerman's Camp Bacon. Notes Zingerman's co-founder and Camp Bacon originator Ari Weinzweig, "If you want to be in on the bacon world, learn about the past, take the pulse of the future, hear some music and poetry and eat a whole lot of great bacon from all over the world, come to camp!" **Seats are limited – reserve now!**

bacon Street fair Sunday, June 3rd • 11am-2pm

A fundraiser for the Washtenaw County 4-H at the Ann Arbor Sunday Artisan Market in Kerrytown.

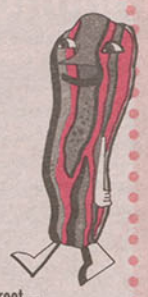
- Sample bacons!
- Eat Bacon dishes!
- Meet Bacon makers!
- Declare your Bacon-dependence!
- Meet the Washtenaw 4-H folks!
- Bring your kids!
- Come hungry!
- Buy bacon!

Donation suggested for entry.

the main event!

Saturday, June 2nd, 8am-4pm

Zingerman's Roadhouse



Emile DeFelice, owner of Caw Caw Creek Farms, South Carolina – the ins and outs of sustainable hog farming

Audrey Petty, poet – bacon and African American foodways

Geoff Emberling, PhD, archeologist – early hog raising in the Middle East

Ji Hye Kim, founder of San Street – bacon cooking and eating in Asia

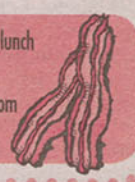
Ari Weinzweig, co-founding partner of Zingerman's and author of *Zingerman's Guide to Better Bacon* – a look at bacon history in Hungary

Tamar Adler, award-winning author of *An Everlasting Meal*

Joe York, award-winning filmmaker

Sam Edwards, famed bacon maker from Surry, Virginia

Tickets are $195/person and include breakfast, lunch and more bacon than you knew you could eat.
To reserve a seat, www.zingermanscampbacon.com or baconbits@zingermans.com



Zingerman's Co-Founder Offers Solution to America's Energy Crisis in Latest Book

In his new book, *A Lapsed Anarchist's Guide to Being a Better Leader*, Zingerman's founder Ari Weinzweig reveals the secret to keeping staff inspired and motivated at work: at Zingerman's, all employees are expected to be leaders. "When it works," he writes, "we create a totally different organizational construct. People feel better about themselves; their confidence goes up and with it their creativity, insight, and intelligence." Weinzweig maintains this a cornerstone of the success that brought Zingerman's from a small corner Deli to a community of eight Ann Arbor businesses with a worldwide reputation for great food and great service.

For more unconventional business "secrets" check out *Zingerman's Guide to Good Leading, Parts 1 and 2*, available at every Zingerman's business and www.zingermans.com or www.zingtrain.com.

Interested in learning more about Zingerman's unique approach to business?

Check out www.zingtrain.com. You'll find our upcoming seminar schedule, other books and DVDs and information about custom training!

Books, Breakfast and Building a Sustainable Business with Ari

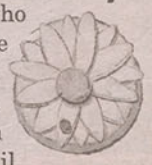
Join Ari for breakfast at the Roadhouse and start your work day with great business insights! Ari and staff members share Zingerman's "secrets" to success from his new book.

Friday, May 18th • 8-9am $10/person (includes breakfast)

Call 734.663.3663 to reserve your seat

Please provide credit card number when reserving *(this card will be charged)*.

Mail Order Saves Mother's Day!



Across the country, people who feared Mother's Day would be ruined because they didn't have the perfect gift for mom are collectively sighing with relief that Zingerman's Mail Order has come to the rescue with **Mother's Daisy Cake**, made with real butter, buttermilk, fresh lemon juice and vanilla. Insiders also suggest sending **Sweet and Savory Gift Box**, stuffed with French-Style Salami, Mo's Bacon Chocolate Bar, Chocolate Covered Spanish Figs, Dutch Gouda, Dulce de Leche Alfajor Cookie, Sea Salt-topped Blondie, Spanish Olive Oil Elephant Ear Tortas, Butter Toasted Virginia Peanuts, and a Peanut Butter Cosmic Cake. Or the **Praise the Lard Gift Box,** bursting with Arkansas Peppered Bacon, Sam Edwards Virginia Breakfast Sausage Links, Broadbent's Kentucky Smoked Sausage, La Quercia's Prosciutto, Zingerman's Peppered Bacon Farm Bread and Mo's Bacon Chocolate bar.

Zingerman's Mail Order has gifts that help folks everywhere say "Love ya, mom!" Call now: 888.636.8162 or visit www.zingermans.com.

Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. ***Up-to-date schedules are posted at arborweb.com,*** *but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.*

Arbor Brewing Company

114 E. Washington 213–1393

This downtown brewpub features occasional live music, 8 p.m.–midnight unless otherwise noted. No cover, no dancing. **May 1: "Essential Listening Party."** *Acoustic Café* host Rob Reinhart spins and discusses some new music. The program concludes at 8:30 p.m. with an acoustic set by a local musician TBA. 7–9 p.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761–1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com), and theark.org; and at the door. **May 1: Dave McGraw & Mandy Fer.** Americana-based singer-songwriter duo based in rural Washington that's known for its delicious vocal harmonies and sinuous melodies. Its repertoire blends McGraw's stories about ordinary people struggling to make a life in the American West with Fer's ethereal, complexly figured dream songs set to hauntingly sultry melodies. The duo recently released its debut CD, *Seed of a Pine.* FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **May 2: The Tony Rice Unit.** Progressive bluegrass ensemble led by guitarist Rice, an influential flatpick innovator whose playing is an eclectic blend of bluegrass, jazz, and folk idioms. $25. **May 3: "For Pete's Sake: A Pete Seeger Birthday Tribute."** A celebration of the folk legend's 93rd birthday features in-the-round performances by an all-star lineup of area singer-songwriters, including **Chris Buhalis, Dick Siegel, Erin Zindle, Sally Potter,** and **Paul Tinkerhess,** along with the singer-songwriter duo **Mustard's Retreat** and **Gemini,** an acoustic trio now that twin brothers Laszlo and Sandor Slomovits have been joined by San's daughter Emily. A benefit for the Ark. $10. **May 4: Cairn to Cairn.** Celtic music and folk songs by the local trio of flutist Kelly McDermott, guitarist Terry Farmer, and bassist Rob Crozier. "Cairn to Cairn explores the world and sound of Celtic folk with a kind of clear-eyed precision, but with heart and soul as well, which means they make these tunes breathe like they're actually alive," says allmusic.com reviewer Steve Leggett. For tonight's celebration of the release of their new CD, they are joined by its producer David Mansfield, the multi-instrumental virtuoso who first gained fame in the 70s as a member of Dylan's band and a cofounder—with T-Bone Burnett—of the Alpha Band. $15. **May 5: Josh White Jr.** Known for his powerful, intense singing and his virtuosity on 6-string and 12-string guitars, White sings in a more modern style than his famous folksinger father. His blues, gospel, and folk repertoire includes many of his father's best-known songs as well as several upbeat, inspirational originals. His latest CD, *Tuning for the Blues,* is a collection of blues classics. $20. **May 6: Garnet Rogers.** Veteran Canadian folkie known for his resonant baritone and poetic, emotionally potent originals that the *Kitchener Record* calls "visionary songs of haunting and mysterious power," accompanies himself on guitar, fiddle, flute, and synthesizer. $15. **May 7: David Olney.** This New England–bred, Nashville-based singer-songwriter is known for a riveting vocal style that's halfway between Bob Dylan's howling wind and John Prine's weathered breeze, and for his deft, haunting, blues-steeped ballads and story songs, graced with a dark, almost Faulknerian humor. "Any time anyone asks me who my favorite music writers are," the late Townes Van Zandt once said, "I say Mozart, Lightnin' Hopkins, Bob Dylan, and Dave Olney. Dave Olney is one of the best songwriters I've ever heard—and I mean that from my heart." He's accompanied by his frequent songwriting collaborator, guitarist Sergio Webb. $15. **May 8: Steppin' in It.** Popular Lansing string band that plays everything from bluegrass, country-folk, and country blues to Cajun, western swing, and calypso. $15. **May 9: David Lindley.** This multi-instrumental virtuoso is a world music pioneer whose repertoire includes African, Arabic, Asian, Celtic, and Turkish traditions, as well as a wide array of traditional American forms. His performances also feature an amazingly wide array of acoustic and electric acoustic instruments, including Hawaiian lap steel guitar, Turkish saz and chumbus, Middle Eastern oud, Irish bouzouki, and more. In 1967 Lindley founded the first world music rock band, Kaleidoscope, and since then his career has been shaped by lengthy collaborations with Jackson Browne, Ry Cooder, guitarist Henry Kaiser (with whom he recorded 2 Grammy-nominated CDs of collaborations with Malagasy musicians), and Jordanian percussionist Hani Naser. $20. **May 10: Madeleine Peyroux.** A Georgia native who was raised in Paris, Peyroux is a genre-dissolving blues and jazz singer with a smoky voice that is a dead ringer for Billie Holiday's and a sly, sensual, agile vocal style that is all her own. She created a critical stir and won a cult following with her 1996 debut, *Dreamland,* after which she abruptly disappeared from the scene. It wasn't until 2004 that she released her long-awaited follow-up CD, *Careless Love,* a widely acclaimed work that features inventive, sometimes revelatory covers of everything from Josephine Baker's "J'ai Deux Amours" to Hank Williams' "Weary Blues from Waitin'." Her new CD *Standing on the Rooftop* blends originals with covers of Dylan, the Beatles, and Robert Johnson, along with a setting of Auden's "Lay Your Sleeping Head, My Love." $45. **May 11: Patty Larkin and Lucy Kaplansky.** Double bill of acclaimed pop-folk singer-songwriters. Larkin is a Boston-based singer-songwriter who blends incisive, often very funny social commentary with heartfelt, tart-witted love songs about assorted people, places, and things. She sings in a breathy, evocative alto, and she's also a superb guitarist whose style has been strongly influenced by Richard Thompson. A huge favorite with local audiences, Larkin describes her music as "folk music meets the Beat Generation meets rock 'n' roll." Kaplansky, a former clinical psychologist, is known for her strong, supple voice and her wryly engaging blues- and country-flavored ballads. "Kaplansky's voice has a tender, vulnerable, confessional quality, and she consistently uses it to her advantage in neatly tailored acoustic settings," says *Washington Post* reviewer Mike Joyce. $22.50. **May 12: Sarah Jarosz.** 20-year-old Texas bluegrass-based singer-songwriter and multi-instrumental prodigy whose unassumingly resonant lyricism and piercingly inerrant vocal interpretations have provoked widespread comparisons to a young Gillian Welch. "Jarosz stamps all eleven tracks with her musical vision," says *No Depression* in its review of her new CD, *Follow Me Down.* "The haunting tone of her voice, the assuredness with which she weaves through the melodies, and the thoughtfulness of her delivery are all impressive … The emotional quality of Jarosz's singing magnifies the open-ended meaning of her lyrics." $20. **May 13: Abigail Stauffer.** Local pop-folk singer-songwriter known for her piercing, emotionally direct songs. Opening act is **Pearl & the Beard,** a NYC-based indie rock band whose offbeat instrumentation includes a cello, glockenspiel, melodica, accordion, and several drums. $15. **May 14: Community High School Jazz Band.** Award-winning ensemble that over the years has produced several prominent figures in the national as well as local jazz scene. $5 in advance from Community High (994–2025). **May 15: Open Stage Showcase.** Performance by 2 favorites with audiences of the Ark's Open Stage nights, **John Richard Thompson,** a versatile lyricist with a rich, strong voice, and **Hannah Curtis,** a singer-songwriter whose music features a deft mix of bluegrass, Americana, folk, and classical elements. $10. **May 16: Kenny White.** New York City singer-songwriter and pianist who writes frank, funny, sophisticated songs in various genres, including classical, jazz, 60s rock, and country. "[White's] songs mourn love's passage into strangeness with the rue of Stephin Merritt and the tenderness of Joni Mitchell," says the *Village Voice* in its review of his 2002 debut CD, *Uninvited Guest.* His recent CD *Comfort in the Static* was named one of the year's best by the *Metro Times.* Opening act is **Jess Klein,** an Ypsilanti acoustic singer-songwriter and guitarist who plays rootsy folk-rock. $15. **May 17: Jonathan Edwards.** A veteran blues-based singer-songwriter best known for his early-70s hits "Sunshine" and "Don't Cry Blue," Edwards sings his easy-feeling songs and delicately poetic love lyrics in a throaty, mellifluous tenor voice. A superb acoustic and electric guitar stylist and a riveting blues harmonica player, he's also known for his hilarious between-songs commentary. $25. **May 18: Glen Phillips.** The former lead singer of Toad the Wet Sprocket, Phillips is an alt-pop singer-songwriter known for writing guitar-propelled anthems that blend a winning melodicism with an introspective, sometimes wry thoughtfulness. *Allmusic.com* describes his music as "a quiet storm that dutifully blends Cat Stevens' confident huskiness and Jackson Browne's weary but warm observer of all things broken." His current shows feature material from a forthcoming new CD. Opening act is **Jonathan Kingham,** a jazz-inflected pop-folk singer-songwriter from Seattle. $20. **May 19 & 20: Colin Hay.** The former frontman of Men at Work, this Australian singer-songwriter recently released *American Sunshine,* a collection of tuneful meditations on life, love, maturity, and perseverance. His live repertoire includes both Men at Work hits and Hay's recent and new songs. $28. **May 21: Michelle Shocked.** Iconoclastic Texas-born singer-songwriter whose music is an artful, passionate blend of roots-rock, folk, country, gospel, and even reggae. $25. **May 22: Caleb Hawley.** Award-winning young singer-songwriter whose songs blend cutting-edge chords and lightning-fast licks with intricate lyrics that draw on the influences of observational writers like Randy Newman and Tom Waits. FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **May 23: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). **May 24: Danilo Perez.** Jazz ensemble led by Panamanian pianist Perez, a former member of the Dizzy Gillespie United Nations Orchestra

jazz

Underground

Music and eats with the Elks

You park in the big parking lot, past the sign that lists the parking lot rules: No cursing or loud talking. No sitting in cars. No hanging out. Go down the back stairs and enter the small door, bypassing the sign that says you must be a member or have a guest card to enter. You must sign the guest register at the bottom of the stairs, however. This is important—the stated purpose of events at the Elks Neighborhood Kitchen is to showcase this place and its unique atmosphere and history to guests. Members of the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge #322 and Daisy Chain Temple #212, I.B.P.O.E. of W., are often sitting around the bar and may engage you in conversation.

The ceiling over the bar is shiny black plastic with cylindrical red and white lights protruding—straight out the 1960s. There are also booths behind and to the left of the musicians if you want to talk, or you can sit outside on the club's big porch. Choose a seat, and then go back up the stairs, turn left into the kitchen, place your food order with the cooks themselves, and pay. The food is reviewed on p. 41, so let me just say that the fried chicken is the best I've had since I left the South.

Then go back to your seat (they'll bring the food to you), settle in, and listen to the music. Most Friday nights bring the Tim Haldeman Trio, often with players sitting in; a recent evening brought a visiting Hammond organist. The jazz concerts have the vital feel of a scene that players want to be part of. There's live music on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 6 to 10, with blues and funk sometimes as well as jazz. (Later in the evening there are dance shows with a DJ.)

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Saxophonist Haldeman, an Ann Arbor native, plays straight-ahead bebop and post-bop. He studied in Chicago, where he absorbed the crucial truth, so often lost on the coasts, that forward-thinking styles of jazz rest no less than traditional ones on a blues foundation. He has a joyful attitude and a way of adapting quickly and spontaneously to the ways of the musicians who join him on stage.

On top of all this, there's no cover except for the DJ shows; food and drinks are cheap; and the earrings of one of the regular bartenders are worth a visit all by themselves. It adds up to an unusually well-preserved slice of history, a reminder of a time when modern jazz had organic roots in African-American communities, and a fine evening on the town that's drawing a hip crowd.

—James M. Manheim

whose music is known for its artful blend of Latin rhythms and traditional jazz harmonic forms. "When the dust settles, [Perez] will be looking like one of the best things that happened to jazz around the turn of the millennium," says a *New York Times* review. His new CD, *Providencia,* was released on the Michigan label Mack Avenue Records. $25. **May 25: Stella!** All-star all-female Detroit-area roots-country quartet fronted by local singer-songwriter and guitarist Jo Serrapere and featuring 3 other songwriters: multi-instrumentalist Jen Sygit, fiddler Diana Ladio, and bassist Laura Ann Bates. Tonight the band celebrates the release of its new CD, *Sorry, Stella!* Opening act is **The Joshua Davis Band,** a Lansing Americana folk-rock band led by Steppin' in It frontman Davis. $15. **May 26: Marcia Ball.** This Austin-based blues singer and pianist grew up in Louisiana and plays a knock-down honky-tonk style of piano that blends the orneriness of blues with the sweet rolling rhythms of New Orleans R&B. One reviewer called her "the secret love child of Miss Manners and Little Richard, sitting demurely at the keyboard while blowing the joint apart." She is also a splendid singer, with a husky, sultry vocal attack at once biting and seductive. Like Bonnie Raitt, she moves easily and convincingly between rousing rockers and emotive ballads. A big favorite with local audiences. $30. **May 30: Stephane Wrembel.** Brooklyn-based French composer-guitarist whose music, rooted in the Gypsy jazz tradition of Django Reinhardt, draws on everything from flamenco and blues to rock. He is most widely known for composing "Bistro Fada," the theme for Woody Allen's *Midnight in Paris.* $21. **May 31: Hana Malhas & the Overthinkers.** *See review, p. 79.* Folk-rock ensemble led by U-M grad Malhas, a singer-songwriter, originally from Jordan, who writes intimate, thoughtful, impassioned songs, singing in both English and Arabic and accompanying herself on piano, guitar, and occasionally violin. $15.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington **214–9995**

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **May 5: Maybe Whitney.** Detroit hip-hop ensemble, fronted by rapper Steven Kasapis, whose music incorporates dubstep and dance music influences. Opening act is **The Dastardly Kids,** an Ypsilanti ensemble that plays aggressive metal-influenced alternative hip-hop. **May 18: Eyes Once Mine and SycAmour.** Double bill. Eyes Once Mine is a Dexter post-hardcore metal band, and SycAmour is a Belleville metalcore band. Opening acts are the veteran local progressive metalcore sextet **Bury the Witness,** the Traverse City pop-metal band **Hello Dear Monster,** the Westland metal band **We, the Redeemed,** and the Detroit pop-punk duo **The Bronze Way. May 25: Delegate.** This local teen experimental hip-hop MC known for his potent socially conscious raps celebrates the release of his debut CD. Opening acts are the Dexter synth-driven powerpop band **Light the Atlantic,** the Skyline High alternative funk-rock band **Creal,** and local underground hip-hop MC **Authentic. May 26:** Local teen rock bands TBA.

Bar Louie

401 E. Liberty **794–3000**

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 8–11:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main **222–0400**

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. & Wed., 7–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **May 2: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter who's been described as a hybrid of Bono and Bruce Springsteen. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley. May 9:** TBA. **May 16: Lucas Paul.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter, accompanied by keyboardist Adam Rogers. **May 23: Jody Raffoul.** See above. **May 30: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award–winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8-Ball Saloon (below the club) and at etix.com. **May 1: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands each week TBA. **May 2:** TBA. **May 3: Kina Grannis.** *All ages admitted.* Acoustic indie pop with a sweetly melancholy edge by this singer-songwriter from L.A. who first came to national attention when the YouTube video of her "Message from Your Heart" aired during the 2007 Super Bowl. Opening act is **Imaginary Friend,** an L.A. acoustic pop-folk singer-songwriter. Advance tickets: $15 ($17 at the door). 8 p.m.–midnight. **May 4: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **May 5: Kadence.** Ensemble led by this highly regarded local progressive hip-hop MC whose music draws on an array of influences from classical and jazz to rock, soul, funk, and electronica. Opening acts are the local hop-hop acts **S.A. & Tranzformer, Tenacity, I.D., Tree City,** and **Charles Trees,** along with **DJ Cataclysmic. May 6: The Spring Standards.** Country-flavored pop-rock with lots of ringing 3-part vocal harmonies by James Cleare, James Smith, and Heather Robb, a trio of NYC singer-songwriters and multi-instrumentalists. In performance, each handles part of the drum kit while playing at least one other instrument. Cleare and Smith alternate between bass (and kick drum) and guitar (and high hat and sometimes harmonica), and Robb switches among melodica, keyboards, and glockenspiel, while keeping time on the snare drum. Opening acts are **Match by Match,** the local postpunk pop-folk duo of guitarist Gray Bouchard and accordionist Melissa Coppola, and **Adam Plomaritas,** a local Americana rock singer-songwriter. Advance tickets: $10. **May 8: "Showcase Night."** See above. **May 9: Violet Void.** Industrial-goth trio from Jackson. Opening acts are the Lansing postindustrial quartet **Terror Network,** the Boston hardcore-reggae band **Mouth Sewn Shut,** the Jackson postgrunge quartet **Sterratic,** and the Concord (MI) country-based blues-rock duo **The Alcoholic Oracles. May 10: Amy Ray.** Passionate, explosive guitar-based rock 'n' roll by a band led by singer-songwriter Ray, best known as one-half of the popular Indigo Girls pop-folk duo. Ray's recently released 4th solo CD, *Lung of Love,* is a collection of bittersweet Americana-flavored love songs. "What's most astonishing about Amy Ray's torrid, ferocious solo [work] is just how convincingly she wears the colors of the riot grrrl," says critic Roy Kasten. "The [music] rages like a showdown at the barricades." Opening act is **The Shadowboxers,** an Atlanta pop-rock quintet known for its engaging lyrics, tight harmonies, and soulful vocals. Advance tickets: $15. **May 11: Charlie Slick.** Local electro-pop singer-songwriter. Opening acts are the punk-rockabilly Elvis tribute show **The Devil Elvis Show,** the popular soul-inflected hip-hop singer and rapper **Nickie P.,** the local fuzz-pop power trio **The Boys Themselves,** and the local punk-rock trio **Fuckin' A. May 14: Hank 3.** More widely known as Hank Williams III, Hank 3 is a postpunk honky tonk singer-songwriter whose music features liberal infusions of hardcore, metal, and punkabilly. His new CD is a collection of honky tonk classics, ranging from his grandfather's title track and "Neath a Cold Gray Tomb of Stone" and Merle Haggard's "Tonight The Bottle Let Me Down" to Waylon Jennings' "Good Hearted Woman." Advance tickets: $20 ($25 at the door). Tonight he opens for himself in successive sets by 3 of his other bands—**3 Bar Ranch, Attention Deficit Domination,** and **Hellbilly**—to showcase the country, rockabilly, and metal strands, respectively, of his musical personality. 8 p.m.–2 a.m. **May 15: Tyler Hilton.** L.A.-based pop-rock singer-songwriter with an engagingly husky voice who's most widely known for his role as Elvis in the Johnny Cash biopic *Walk the Line.* Opening act is **Dion Roy,** a NYC-based acoustic pop-folk singer-songwriter whose influences range from Jeff Buckley to Ben Folds and Ryan Adams. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). 8 p.m.–midnight. **May 16:** TBA. **May 17: Willie the Kid.** Grand Rapids hip-hop MC. Opening acts are 2 other hip-hop MCs, **LoMobb** and **Fame. May 18: Daedalus.** L.A. electronica musician and DJ, a founding DJ at the Internet radio station Dublab. Advance tickets: $15. **May 19: Kurt Vile & the Violators.** Philadelphia psychedelic folk-rock band led by singer-songwriter Vile. Opening acts are **Black Bananas,** a versatile East Coast postpunk rock 'n' roll band formerly known as RTX fronted by Royal Trux cofounder Jennifer Herrema, and **True Window,** a Dallas crunk-metal trio. Advance tickets: $15. **May 22: Fierce.** National touring gay burlesque revue. Opening act is **Tickled Fancy Burlesque Co.** (see Woodruff's). **May 23:** TBA. **May 24:** TBA. **May 25: Joe Pug.** Highly regarded young Chicago-based folk-rock singer-songwriter whose music draws on a variety of influences from John Prine to the late alt-country songwriter Walter Hyatt and whose best songs manage to blend Springsteen's conversational, musing Everyman with Dylan's gnomic parables. A coproduction with the Ark. Advance tickets: $13 ($15 at the door). **May 26: Universal Xpression.** Veteran Detroit-based band that plays reggae, soca, and calypso. **May 29: Ron Pope.** NYC pop-rock singer-songwriter whose music ranges from guitar-fueled anthems to introspective ballads. Opening acts are **Josiah Leming,** a young pop-rock singer-songwriter from rural east Tennessee, and **Zach Berkman,** a Peoria-bred folk-rock singer-songwriter now based in NYC. Advance tickets: $12 ($15 at the door). **May 30:** TBA. **May 31: Anybody Killa.** Detroit Native American hip-hop MC whose stage persona is that of a Native American warrior. Opening acts are 3 other hip-hop acts that record for the Insane Clown Posse's Psychopathic Records (Farmington Hills), **DJ Clay, Smokehouse Junkies,** and **AJAX.**

Blue Tractor

207 E. Washington **222–4095**

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 9:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Open Mike.** All acoustic musicians and vocalists invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Zachariah Griffin.

The Circus

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This 2nd-floor downtown club features live music on Wed. & occasional other nights 10 p.m.–2 a.m. DJ on Thurs. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (except for age 21 & older), dancing. Also, live music or karaoke on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. in the street-level **Millennium Club** or basement **Cavern Club** (cover with dancing in these clubs). Age 21 & older admitted on Wed. & Thurs., age 18 & older on Fri. & Sat. **May 2: Dragon Wagon.** See Wolverine. **May 4: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club. **May 9: Lonesome County.** Hard-driving traditional bluegrass quintet from Livingston County, led by singer-guitarist Chad Jeremy, that won the 2006 Renfro Valley Bluegrass Talent Contest. With mandolinist Kevin Frank, banjoist Lee Kaufmann, fiddler Marty Somberg, and bassist Paul Shapiro. **May 16: Whistle Pigs.** Bluegrass-flavored alt-country Americana trio from Carbondale (IL) whose instrumentation features banjo, accordion, and upright bass. **May 19: Killer Flamingos.** See above. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club. **May 23: Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys.** Lansing swing-flavored bluegrass band led by singer-guitarist Lindsay Lou Rilko. **May 30: Henhouse Prowlers.** Traditional bluegrass by this Chicago band whose songs touch on such classic bluegrass themes as love, loss, work, regret, and death.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665–2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Mon., Thurs., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Every Mon: Shaun Gareth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **May 3: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio. **May 5: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers. **May 10: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **May 12: The Kreelers.** Traditional Irish songs of drinking and rebellion, accompanied on a wide array of instruments, by this Detroit-area duo formerly known as Bruno's Boys. **May 17: The Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss. **May 19: Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul. **May 24: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See above. **May 26: K.T.'s Alibi.** Redford pop-rock quartet led by vocalist Katie Jimmerson. **May 31: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland.

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
314 East Liberty Ann Arbor

If you live to laugh, life is here

Nick Gaza
May 3 4 5
"The Drew Carey Show"
"Malcolm in the Middle"
"Becker"
"The Biggest Loser"

Maria Bamford
May 10 11 12
Comedy Central's
"The Comedians of Comedy Tour"
LA WEEKLY Pick of the Week
Variety's Top Ten Comics to Watch
- "Late Nite with Conan O'Brien"
"The Tonight Show with Jay Leno"
"Comedy Central Presents...Maria Bamford"
Comedy Central: "Premium Blend"
"USO Tour"
"Tough Crowd"
does voices for cartoons
and movies and much, much, more

Danny Browning
May 18 & 19
"Laughing Skull Comedy Festival"
"Funniest Person in Lexington"
"Chicago Snubfest"
Danny is fast becoming
a club favorite

Gary Conrad
May 24 25 26
Comedy Hypnotist

Gary Conrad has quickly become one of the hottest and most skillful hypnotists working in this country. He has amazed audiences from Alaska to Florida with his hypnotism shows. He has become a regular at all of the "A" room comedy clubs and colleges across the country.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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Thursday night is normally Open Mic Comedy Jamm
Fri. & Sat. - 8 & 10:30pm

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Crazy Wisdom Tea Room
114 S. Main **665–9468**

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8:30–10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **May 4: Katie Dahl.** Highly regarded young Wisconsin singer-songwriter with a powerful alto voice. **May 5: Patti Ecker & Louise Brodie.** Chicago-based acoustic duo with an eclectic repertoire that includes folk, swing, and Celtic tunes, along funky jazz-blues originals. **May 11: Hoodang.** Wry, pungent alt-country by this local trio led by singer-songwriter and guitarist David Rossiter. **May 12: The Hackwells.** Local acoustic trio, formerly known as Gather Round, whose original ballads draw on pop-rock, retro-country, and Americana influences. **May 18: The Potter's Field.** Americana roots duo of singer-songwriters Rochelle Clark of Chelsea and John Natiw of Canton. **May 19: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **May 25: The Dorkestra.** Local folk-rock swing quintet whose music blends jazz, African, Middle Eastern, funk, and pop influences. **May 26: Jerry Partovich.** This local ukulele player is joined by several other local musicians for an evening of in-the-round performances.

Creekside Grill and Bar
5827 Jackson Rd. **827–2737**

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **May 27: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalists Jim Tarravantes and Patty O'Connor. 6:30–9 p.m.

Dreamland Theater
26 N. Washington
Ypsilanti **657–2337**

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music, 9–11 p.m. or later. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. May schedule TBA.

Elks Neighborhood Kitchen
220 Sunset **761–7172**

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, Thurs.–Sat. 6–10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, no cover (unless otherwise noted). Members and guests welcome. **Every Thurs.:** TBA. **Every Fri.: Tim Haldeman Trio.** *See review, p. 52.* Blues- and bebop-based jazz in a variety of styles and forms by this local ensemble led by saxophonist Haldeman. With bassist Dave Sharp and percussionist Dan Piccolo. **Every Sat.:** TBA.

Guy Hollerin's
3600 Plymouth Rd. **769–9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. & occasional Fri., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. If tickets are available in advance, they are sold at the restaurant. **May 5: Bobby Murray Band.** R&B band led by singer-guitarist Murray, who is the regular guitarist in Etta James' band. **May 12: Root Doctor.** Lansing quintet led by vocalist Freddie Cunningham that plays a rich, varied blues and R&B repertoire that ranges from ZZ Hill to Billie Holiday to B. B. King to Bobby "Blue" Bland. **May 19: Harper & His Midwest Kind.** Blues-rock band led by Peter Harper, a blues singer-songwriter from Australia, now transplanted to Grass Lake, who plays blues harp and didgeridoo. The band has an acclaimed CD on the Blind Pig label, *Down to the Rhythm.* **May 26:** No music.

The Habitat Lounge
3050 Jackson Rd. **665–3636**

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs., 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and jazz Sun., 7–11 p.m. Also, DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: James Cornelison Quartet.** Jazz originals and standards by this U-M music student ensemble led by electric guitarist Cornelison. **May 1-3: Dave Hamilton.** Pop covers by this versatile solo guitarist. **May 4: Brena.** Grand Rapids pop-rock quintet. **May 5: Bugs Beddow Band.** Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow. **May 8–10: Green-Eyed Soul.** Windsor pop trio fronted by vocalists Melissa Danese and Fallon Deluca. **May 11: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **May 12: Rhythm Kings.** Horn-fired jazz-rock dance band. **May 15: Rick Canzano.** Northville pop-rock multi-instrumentalist. **May 16 & 17: Dal Bouey.** Detroit R&B and neo-soul show band led by vocalist Bouey. **May 18 & 19: The Front Men.** New Detroit vintage-rock band. **May 22–24: Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **May 25 & 26: Soulstice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing. **May 29:** No music. **May 30 & 31: Scotty Alexander Duo.** Duo led by this versatile singer-pianist.

Live
102 S. First St. **623–1443**

This lounge, recently remodeled and under new management, features live music Wed., 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m., Fri. happy hour 6:30–9 p.m., and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Thurs.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **May 2: Mellow Runnings.** Local dancehall and roots reggae band. **May 4: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. 6–9:30 p.m. **May 9: Brendan Andes Trio.** Local jazz-funk trio led by Macpodz bassist Andes. **May 11: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6–9:30 p.m. **May 16: Ikebe Shakedown.** Highly regarded Afro-funk band from Brooklyn (NY). **May 18: The Breakers.** Veteran local classic rock band that plays 60s–80s covers. 6–9:30 p.m. **May 23: Matthew Santos.** Chicago-based pop-rock singer-songwriter best known for his collaboration on Lupe Fiasco's hip-hop song "Superstar." **May 25: Drivin' Sideways.** See above. 6–9:30 p.m. **May 30: Heather Schwartz.** Vintage jazz and blues by this talented local singer.

Melange Subterranean Bistro
314 S. Main **222–0202**

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and occasional other nights. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist.

The Necto
516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 6 nights a week, Mon.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing.

Old Town
122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **May 6: The Webbs.** Foot-stomping avant-hillbilly music by an acoustic trio featuring the Detroit husband-and-wife duo of vocalist Andie Webb and bassist Tracy Webb and the Chelsea-bred postpunk honky-tonk musician Scotty Karate. **May 13: Jud Branam & Kevin Brown.** Local alt-country duo, both Corndaddy singer-songwriters whose music mixes equal parts of Gram Parsons and Uncle Tupelo. **May 20: Greg McIntosh.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter best known as the Great Lakes Myth Society guitarist. **May 27: Mike Vial.** Acoustic pop-rock singer-songwriter from Howell.

Oz's Music Environment
1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30–9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover by donation, no dancing. **May 1: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **May 22: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

Passport
3776 S. State **222–1111**

This south-side restaurant features live music Thurs. 7–10 p.m. Also, dance DJs Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 7 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Comedy Open Mike.** All stand-up comics invited. 10 p.m.–1 a.m. **May 3, 10, & 17:** TBA. **May 24: Paul Keller Quartet.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo. **May 31:** TBA.

The Quarter Bistro
300 S. Maple **929–9200**

This west-side restaurant features live music Thurs. 6:30–9 p.m., Sat. 7:30–10 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, a DJ on Fri., 6–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **May 3: Teddy Richards.** Singer-guitarist (and son of soul legend Aretha Franklin) whose band plays rock 'n' roll and R&B originals and covers. **May 5: Meg & Tony.** Acoustic rock covers by the Royal Oak duo of vocalist Meghan Kelly and guitarist Tony Anthony. **May 10: Gia Warner.** Acoustic pop-folk singer-songwriter from Northville. **May 12: Terry Jacoby.** Acoustic alternative rock singer-songwriter. **May 17: Kevin Wilson.** Classic rock and country singer-guitarist. **May 19: Gia Warner.** See above. **May 24: Lucas Paul.** See Black Pearl. **May 26: Jeff Tucker.** Acoustic singer-songwriter from Toledo who accompanies himself on guitar and harmonica and whose music blends rock, pop, and country with elements of Americana and jazz. **May 31: Gia Warner.** See above.

Ravens Club
207 S. Main **214–0400**

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Ron Brooks Trio.** Mainstream bebop-rooted jazz by this trio led by veteran local bassist Brooks. With pianist Tad Weed and drummer George Davidson. **May 4: Planet D Nonet.** This large Detroit ensemble, a self-styled "space-age swing band," is led by veteran drummer RJ Spangler. 5–7 p.m.

Silvio's Organic Pizza
715 North University **214–6666**

This campus-area restaurant features live music Fri. 7–9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Reggae DJ Thurs., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **May 4: The Peanut Butter Conspiracy.** Local Americana trio whose music blends folk, rock, and blues. **May 11: Bliss.** The local trio of singer-songwriter Laura Massaro, guitarist Craig Brann, and percussionist Don Allen performs an eclectic mix of pop, folk, and world music, including originals, covers, and improvisations. **May 18: Sel de Terre.** Traditional Cajun music sung in French by this Manchester duo of fiddler Peter Lynch and guitarist Steve Rohs. **May 25: Liz Royce.** Rock, folk, blues, and country classics by this local torch singer and pianist.

Tap Room
201 W. Michigan
Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music most Wed. 7–11 p.m., Thurs. 8 p.m.–midnight, & Sat. and occasional Fri. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ with Latin dance music, Wed. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **May 5:** TBA. **May 12: The Shelter Dogs.** See Conor O'Neill's. **May 19: Ann Arbor Music Center Kids Showcase.** Young musicians perform pop and rock covers. 6–8 p.m. **May 19:** TBA. **May 26:** TBA.

Vinology
110 S. Main **222–9841**

This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz, Sun. 6–8 p.m. and occasional Thurs. 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **Every Sun: Marsha Mumm.** Blues, jazz, and pop standards, along with some originals, by this local singer-songwriter, guitarist, and pianist. **May 17: Gwenyth Hayes Trio.** Jazz-soul fusion by the local trio of singer-songwriter and bassist Hayes, guitarist Jake Reichbart, and drummer Rob Avsharian.

Wolverine State Brewing Co.
2019 W. Stadium **369–2990**

This west-side brewpub features live music, mostly on weekends, 8:30 p.m.–12:15 a.m. Cover, dancing. **May 5: 16 More Miles.** Local alt-country band. **May 6: Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys.** See Circus. 7–11 p.m. **May 11: Doug Horn Trio.** 40s & 50s swing and bebop by a jazz ensemble led by local alto saxophonist Horn. **May 17: Dragon Wagon.** Highly regarded local experimental acoustic roots-music sextet that calls its music "bluegrass folk-rock with a touch of Irish whiskey." **May 18: The Crane Wives.** Grand Rapids Americana folk-rock quintet. **May 19: Moxie Strings.** Local Americana-Celtic fusion trio fronted by fiddler Diana Ladio and cellist Alison Lynn. **May 25: Wayward Roots.** Local acoustic roots music string quintet. With mandolinist David Mosher, fiddler Evan Childress, dobro player Tony Pace, guitarist Todd Lang, and bassist Alan Reuben. **May 26: The Bitter Regrets.** Youth rock band from the Ann Arbor Music Center. Opening act TBA. 6–8 p.m. **May 26: Dirty Deville.** Local rock quartet.

Woodruff's
36 E. Cross
Ypsilanti **483–2800**

This club in Ypsilanti's Depot Town features live music Sun. & Thurs. 8–11 p.m., Tues. 7–10 p.m., and Mon., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, karaoke on Thurs. 11 p.m.–1 a.m. and DJ on Sun. & Tues. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (except Tues.), dancing. **Every Sun.** (except May 20)**: Dan Bennett Quartet.** Experimental jazz ensemble led by NOMO saxophonist Bennett. 8–11 p.m. **Every Sun.: Todd Osborne.** This Detroit-area electronic musician spins techno, electronica, funk, and soul records. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **Every Tues.: "Acoustic Open Mike."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter **Dave Boutette.** 8–11 p.m. **Every Fri.: Legendary Wings.** Local postbop jazz quartet with saxophonist Dan Bennett, electric pianist Matt Endahl, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer Nick Collins. 6:30–9 p.m. **May 2:** TBA. **May 3:** TBA. 8–11 p.m. **May 4: Tickled Fancy Burlesque Co.** Popular local postpunk burlesque troupe. Opening acts TBA. **May 5: Wilson.** Gnarly rock 'n' roll party music by this Detroit quintet. Opening acts are **Jehovah's Witness Protection Program,** a popular local rock 'n' roll duo, and **Snakewing,** a Ferndale punk-metal quartet **May 9:** TBA. **May 10:** TBA. 8–11 p.m. **May 11:** TBA. **May 12: The Muggs.** Downriver 70s-style blues-rock trio. Opening acts are **The Sights,** a nationally acclaimed Detroit band that plays vintage Detroit rock 'n' roll a la the Stooges and the MC5, and **Danny & the Darleans,** a Detroit garage rock trio. **May 16: Deniz Tek.** Postpunk rock 'n' roll band led by this Ann Arbor native who made a name for himself in the 70s as the leader of the pioneering Australian punk band Radio Birdman. Opening acts are **Blue Snaggletooth,** a local rock band that includes members of Mazinga and other area bands, **Patrick Elkins & the Rainbow Vomit Family Band,** a local avant-punk quintet led by singer-songwriter Elkins. **May 17:** TBA. 8–11 p.m. **May 18:** TBA. **May 19: "Elbow Deep."** Drag show and gay and lesbian dance night hosted by Maxi and Jennifer of the House of Chanel, with a DJ TBA. **May 20: Saturday Looks Good to Me.** Veteran local indie rock quartet led by singer-songwriter Fred Thomas whose influences range from the Beach Boys to Guided by Voices. Opening acts TBA. 8–11 p.m. **May 23:** TBA. **May 24:** TBA. 8–11 p.m. **May 25:** TBA. **May 26:** TBA. **May 30:** TBA. **May 31:** TBA. 8–11 p.m.

Zal Gaz Grotto
2070 W. Stadium **663–1202**

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Mon. 7:30–10:15 p.m., Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Mon: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. The May schedule features **Midland Down High School Jazz Band** (May 7), **Wyandotte Roosevelt High School Jazz Band** (May 21), and guests TBA on May 14 & 28. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. **May 11: Paul Keller & Friends.** Veteran local string bassist Keller is joined by vocalist Sarah D'Angelo, pianist Duncan McMillan, and saxophonist Ben Jansson. **May 23: Paul Keller & Friends.** Bassist Keller is joined tonight by vocalist Marlena Studer, pianist Cliff Monear, and drummer Pete Siers.

May Events

FILMS

65 Film Screenings — *John Hinchey & Katie Whitney*

GALLERIES

61 Exhibit Openings — *Katie Whitney*

Newspaper Diary — *Jan Schlain*

EVENTS REVIEWS

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A gift in fragments — *Keith Taylor*

59 Etienne Charles

Trinidad traditions — *Piotr Michalowski*

67 The Moth StorySLAM

Staving off zombies — *Stephanie Douglass*

73 Ann Arbor Cantata Singers

Feel the love — *James Leonard*

77 Gary Conrad

You are getting verrry funny — *Sally Mitani*

79 Hana Malhas

One to watch — *James M. Manheim*

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

52 Nightspots — *John Hinchey*

Underground — *James M. Manheim*

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.annarborobserver.com

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

★ *Denotes a free event.*

Bacchus rides a centaur-drawn chariot with his bride, Ariadne. The U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology "Monsters and Myth" family day on May 19 gives kids an opportunity to learn about Greek mythology.

We want to know about your event!
Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** hinch@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769–3175
- **By mail:** John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
- **By fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine

What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

arborweb:
An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at **arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

arbormail:
Get your alerts by email—send a reminder when your favorite performer, group, or special event shows up in town. Sign up at arborweb.com/arbormail_help.html.

1 TUESDAY

★**35th Annual May Day Celebration: Ann Arbor Morris.** All invited to celebrate this traditional holiday with outdoor singing and boisterous traditional English dances. *6–7 a.m., U-M Nichols Arboretum (meet at the lookout above the main valley near Geddes Rd. gate). Free. 747–8138.*

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues., 11–11:30 a.m.; Wed., 6–6:30 p.m.; & Thurs. 10–10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10–10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7–7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play this popular word game. *10 a.m.–noon, Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar, and at 1 p.m. **mah-jongg, bridge** and other **card games, board games, Wii sports,** and **quilting** and other **craft projects.** Also, at 1:30 p.m., **Yiddish Tish,** a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

★**"Focus on Women: The Huron River Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Tues.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 18–40 miles, to Dexter and back. Other Tues. ride: **"Tuesday Ride to Chelsea and Beyond"** (10 a.m., Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd., 996–8440), a moderate-paced ride, 35–40 miles, to Chelsea for breakfast. *6 p.m., meet at Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd. Free. 662–0205.*

★**"Tuesday Evening Birders": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** *Every Tues.* WAS members Lathe Claflin and Mike Sefton or city ornithologist Dea Armstrong lead evening walks at various local birding sites. Bring binoculars and (if you have one) a scope. *6 p.m., carpool from the Miller Rd. Park & Ride off*

New Home?
start here
BRAG AnnArbor.com
Builders and Remodelers Association of Greater Ann Arbor
Greater Ann Arbor's Place for Remodeling and Home Building Resources, Advice, and Ideas.
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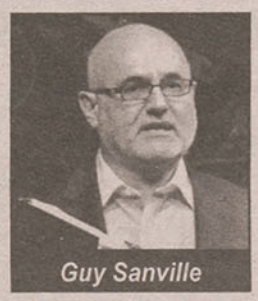
may 2012 event highlights
Ann Arbor District Library

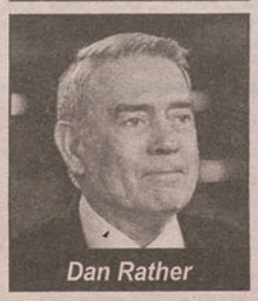

Guy Sanville

May 8

VISIONS 2012

May 11

Photo © Elena Seibert
Delia Ephron


Dan Rather

Terence Dickinson

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday **1**
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Purple Rose Theatre presents a **Concert Reading** of **Jeff Daniels'** new play, ***The Meaning of Almost Everything***

Wednesday **2**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
John Farah and **Nelson Williams** discuss their new book, ***Let's Pick It Up A Bit: A Guide To A Running Lifestyle***

Thursday **3**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
More Than Morels: Michigan Seasonal Mushrooms with **Phil Tedeschi** of the Michigan Mushroom Hunters Club

Saturday **5**
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Family Comic Jam: Celebrate Free Comic Book Day
Make your own comic story together! • **ALL AGES**

Saturday **5**
4:00 - 5:00 pm
CONCERT • An Afternoon with Jan Krist & Jim Bizer
Enjoy a concert by this fun and formidable duo

Tuesday **8**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
ART LECTURE • Mark Rothko and *Red* • Grant W. Mandarino, UM Dept. of the History of Art, discusses artist Mark Rothko in conjunction with the Tony Award-winning play *Red*, now showing at Performance Network • **PERFORMANCE NETWORK, 120 E. HURON**

Wednesday **9**
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
VISIONS 2012 Vendor Fair: What's New In Technology and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MORRIS LAWRENCE BUILDING

Wednesday **9**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Choosing Award-winning Books for Adults, Teens and Pre-Teens • Learn how the American Library Association annually selects national award-winning books and authors

Friday **11**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Saloma Furlong, recently featured on PBS' *American Experience,* discusses her memoir, ***Why I Left the Amish***

Tuesday **15**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Cycle Vacations: How To Take an Entire Vacation by Bike discussed by Bivouac • **PITTSFIELD BRANCH • GRADE 6 - ADULT**

Thursday **17**
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Yen Azzaro, Art & Antique Consultant • Curator and consultant shares examples of art and discusses what to look for in antiques

Saturday **19**
11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Geek Academy: SCRATCH DAY! and Contest • It's a day devoted to Scratch, the people's animation art platform
DOWNTOWN 3RD FLOOR COMPUTER LAB • GRADE 6 - ADULT

Sunday **20**
3:00 - 4:30 pm
Delia Ephron @ AADL • The bestselling author and screen writer (*You've Got Mail*, *Bewitched*, *Michael*) discusses her career and new novel, ***The Lion Is In***. The event includes a book signing, with books for sale.

Monday **21**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
An Evening with Dan Rather as he discusses his just-released memoir, ***Rather Outspoken: My Life In The News*** • The event includes a book signing, with books for sale • **MICHIGAN THEATER, 603 E. LIBERTY**

Wednesday **23**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Documentary filmmaker, digital historian and Archive Team founder **Jason Scott** discusses **Preservation Activism & *Get Lamp*'s Lost Episode** • Preserving content from the early Internet

Thursday **24**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Award-winning Astronomer Terence Dickinson presents **A Voyage to the Edge of the Universe** • This highly-illustrated presentation begins with constellations seen from Terence's rural Ontario home and includes a book signing with books for sale

Tuesday **29**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
From Tiny To Mighty: The History, Uses & Cultural Relevance of the Strawberry • Ecology by Design owner **William Kirst** kicks off Strawberry Week and traces the history of the amazing fruit

For more information: 327.4200 or aadl.org

aadl.org

M-14. Free. Anyone under 18 not accompanied by an adult relative or legal guardian needs to have a completed parental consent form (available from fieldtrips@washtenawaudubon.org) to participate. 994–3569, 668–2513.

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun. & Tues.–Fri.* All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Sun. & Thurs.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy (Wed.), and booster draft (Fri.) decks. Prizes. Bring your own cards (except Fri.). *6 p.m. (Tues.–Fri.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. $5 (Tues., free; Fri., $15 includes cards). 786–3746.*

★"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch. *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA at meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/. Free. 945–3035.*

★"The Meaning of Almost Everything": Ann Arbor District Library. Purple Rose Theatre artistic director Guy Sanville directs a concert reading of Jeff Daniels' new play, a drama scheduled for its premiere in the 2012–2013 Purple Rose season that's about 2 men existing in nothingness, one who wants to stay, and one who's not so sure. Followed by a discussion with the audience. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

U-M Softball vs. EMU. The May schedule also includes a 3 game series (with a Saturday doubleheader) vs. **Purdue** (May 11, 6 p.m., & May 12, 1 & 3 p.m.). *7 p.m., Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. $4 (youths age 12 & under, $2; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). $7 (students, $4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665–7704.*

★Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines. *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 70-member *a cappella* barbershop harmony chorus. *7–9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($26 monthly dues for those who join). 612–7580.*

★Jim Abbott: Nicola's Books. This retired Flint-born baseball pitcher discusses ***Imperfect: An Improbable Life,*** his new memoir about his experience as a U-M star pitcher, winning an Olympic gold medal, and pitching a no-hitter for the Yankees, despite being born without a right hand. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel, 445–1925.*

"Michigan Wine Superstars: 2 Lads Winery": Produce Station (un)Corked. Jorge Lopez Chavez and 2 Lads Winery co-owner Chris Baldyga lead tastings of 5 wines from this Traverse City winery that specializes in red and sparkling wines. *Note:* These events always sell out. *7:30–8:30 p.m., The Last Word, 301 W. Huron. $15 in advance only at localwineevents.com/events/detail/417013. 663–7848.*

★Ann Arbor Camera Club. *May 1 & 15. May 1:* Club members show their projected images on various topics, including **"Street Scenes."** *May 15:* Local photographer Shawn Miller presents a slide-illustrated talk on **"Iraq."** Also, club members present their recent prints. *7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium, 1655 Newport Rd. Free ($25 annual dues for those who join). 327–4781.*

★"Occupy Brightmoor: Retaking Detroit from Within": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Talk by Detroit Community Schools founder (and former Detroit Waldorf School teacher) Bart Eddy and former Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor student Katherina Walsh, who last summer founded the Youth Employment Collaborative in the Brightmoor neighborhood of Detroit. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 944–4903.*

★Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***El Viajero del Siglo,*** Argentine writer Andrés Neuman's novel about an itinerant translator who stops in a German city for the night and is unable to leave. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★German Speakers Round Table. *Every Tues.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8–10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453–2394.*

poetry

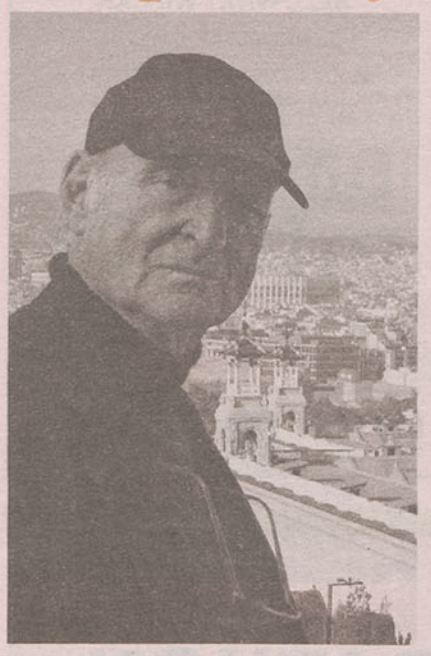
Nathaniel Tarn

A gift in fragments

Ever since Plato kicked the poets out of his Republic, it's been said that the gulf between poetry and philosophy cannot be bridged. Luckily enough the people who actually practice these arts often don't listen. Perhaps one of the best living examples of the poet as thinker is Nathaniel Tarn, now into his 80s and still working. I think I first learned about Tarn through his early translation of Pablo Neruda's "The Heights of Machu Picchu"—a translation that introduced a whole generation of American readers to that masterpiece. Yet Tarn was trained through his PhD as an academic anthropologist and has published over thirty books that are primarily literary. He has traveled widely yet is clearly a devoted gardener. He has studied the birds that share the planet with us, both in his backyard and in the faraway places where his work has taken him.

In his most recent major collection of poems, *Ins and Outs of the Forest Rivers,* he writes meditations on Renaissance art; prophetic cries of anguish against a culture that seems to demand endless war; laments for the millions of trees dying in our forests ("Our pines continue to die and continue to die— / funeral carpets of needles around their base"); and the title poem, which among other things is a narrative of a journey he undertook into the wild regions of Borneo when he was close to 80, a journey during which his guide died of a heart attack. None of this leads to easy explanations of the difficult questions of life, particularly for the artist or thinker "whose daily / work is close to prophecy, who feels it in his nerves / or in her muscles—where news travels up fast / and lodges in the eyes, all-seeing, all-pervading vision / of disaster."

These larger issues, however, are always connected to the facts of this world. Nathaniel Tarn not only sees the smaller things, but he has studied them, knows their names and



how they act. When he steps back to some kind of conclusion, it feels earned:

Let the bird joy, live, signify there is
some purpose in the purposeless.
There is no movement forward. Despairingly,
you try to move but cannot. Yet everything
connects. Sometimes, you know, the poem cannot stop: from day to day, a gift in fragments.

Because Tarn's process has been long and arduous, crossing many lines of discipline, language, and culture, when he comes to some vague possibilities of joy, or even of hope, he is much more convincing than lesser thinkers who work from a smaller data set:

Emotions are dead leaves; yet some may carry
to sing as if a world were morning, as if light,
still tinted by the birds, were truth and possibly.

Nathaniel Tarn comes to town to read in the One Pause Poetry series, now held at the Metal gallery on Felch St., on May 5.

—Keith Taylor

★"Viewing Night": U-M Detroit Observatory. *May 1 & 15.* All invited to peer at the night sky through antique telescopes. The Observatory dome can be opened only during mild, dry weather, so check astro.lsa.umich.edu/outreach/detroit to see if the event has been canceled due to weather conditions. *9:30–11 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. Free. 763–3482.*

2 WEDNESDAY

★Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops. *Every Wed., Fri., & Sat.* All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. *Noon–12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30–11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369–3107.*

ACBL Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs.* All seniors age 55 & over invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $7 (members, $6). 794–6250.*

★Chess: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center. *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★"Kids Art Fair": Ann Arbor District Library. *Apr. 29 and May 2 & 6.* All kids in grades K–8 invited to submit artwork to be included in a juried Kids Art Fair at the Townie Street Party on July 16. Bring samples of your work, and be prepared to talk to judges. *5–7 p.m. (May 2) & 2–5 p.m. (Apr. 29 & May 6), AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers. *Every Wed.* All invited to play this popular word game. Bring a set if you have one. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084.*

"Health Starts Here 28-day Challenge": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Every Wed.* A series of cooking demos and talks on healthy eating habits, including a **store tour** (May 2), **"Nutrition Label Reading and Cooking with Plant-Based Foods"** (May 9), **"Cooking with Whole Foods and Nutrient-Dense Foods"** (May 16), **"Cooking with Healthy Fats"** (May 23), and a final **celebration** (May 30). *5 p.m., Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $35 for the series. Preregistration required. 997–7500.*

★"West Side Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Wed.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 22–25 miles, and a slow-paced ride, 13–18 miles, to the Dexter Dairy Queen and back. Now in its 35th year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. Other Wed. rides: **"Early Morning Ride from Ann Arbor West Side"** *(9 a.m., Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport, 649–9762),* a moderate-paced 40-mile ride to Chelsea or Whitmore Lake. **"Superior Salem Dirt Road"** *(9 a.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church parking lot, Gotfredson Rd. at Ann Arbor–Plymouth Rd., 663–5060, 248–437–5067, 482–5103),* a slow/moderate-paced ride, 19 miles or more, along gravel country roads. *6 p.m. sharp, meet at Paladin parking lot, 2800 N. Zeeb Rd. Free. 426–5116 (longer ride), 665–4552 & 761–2659 (shorter ride).*

"La Traviata": Quality 16. *May 2 & 3.* Digital reprise of the April live broadcast of the **Metropolitan Opera** production of the finale of Verdi's ever popular adaptation of the story of Violetta, a Parisian courtesan who sacrifices her one chance at happiness when she learns that her relationship with her lover is compromising his family's honor. The score contains many of the most famous arias in the operatic repertoire, including the lilting drinking song "Libiamo, libiamo," the brilliant coloratura aria "Sempre libera," and the majestic "Di Provenza el mar." Stars Natalie Dessay, Matthew Polenzani, and Dmitri Hvorostovsky. *6:30 p.m. (May 2) & 1 p.m. (May 3), Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets $23 (seniors, $20; kids age 12 & under & students, $13.50) in advance at gqti.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623–7469.*

★McDowell Writing Awards Performances: Greenhills School. A variety show featuring poems, stories, plays, and essays written and performed by middle and high school students who won awards in this spring's writing contest. Preceded by a showcase of student artwork. *7 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 769–4010.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

★"Let's Pick It Up a Bit: A Guide to a Running Lifestyle": Ann Arbor District Library. Local dentist John Farah and retired auto engineer Nelson Williams, both longtime marathoners, discuss their new book. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Coney Detroit": Nicola's Books. *Detroit Free Press* reporter Katherine Yung and MSU journalism professor Joe Grimm discuss their new book exploring all aspects of this regional delicacy. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss ***Dr. Rosenbach and Mr. Lilly,*** Joel Silver's book about early 20th-century book collecting as told through the story of one collector and the books and manuscripts he purchased from the well-known flamboyant book collector A.S.W. Rosenbach. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sat. Mar. 29–June 2.* Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of Don Zolidis's award-winning drama about a white buffalo born on a small farm in southern Wisconsin. The owner thinks nothing of it until she learns that the birth is the fulfillment of an ancient Sioux prophecy of peace on earth, and her little farm is quickly overwhelmed with religious pilgrims, bringing her into contact with a culture and faith wholly unfamiliar to her. Cast: David Daoust, Matthew David, Rainbow Dickerson, Stacie Hadgikosti, Alex Leydenfrost, Nate Mitchell, Michelle Mountain, Michael Brian Ogden, Meghan Thompson. *3 & 8 p.m., Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $25 (Wed. & Thurs.), $35 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & $40 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433–7673.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 2, 9, 17, & 31.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

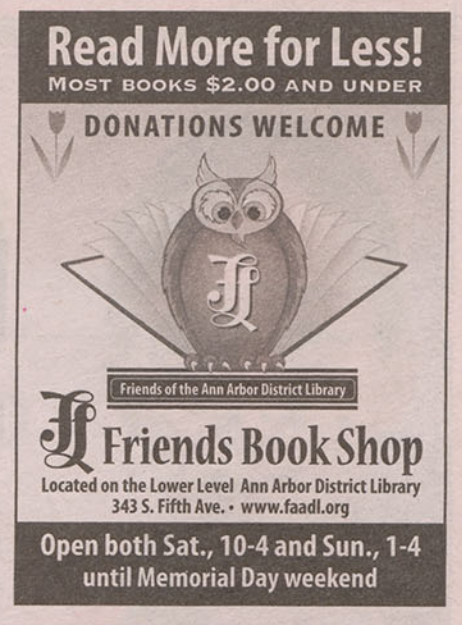
"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by beginning (7 & 8 p.m.) & intermediate (7:30 p.m., 3437 Mason Hall) swing lessons. *9–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. $5 (students, $4). 945–8428.*

3 THURSDAY

★"Spring Migration Walk in Nichols Arboretum": Washtenaw Audubon Society. *Every Thurs., Apr. 5–May 24.* All invited to join club members for a walk through the Arb to look for resident birds and early migrants. *8–11 a.m., meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of Riverview off Geddes. Free. 994–3569.*

★"Spring Unfolding Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Thurs.* Beginner-friendly slow-paced ride, 10–15 miles, around Ann Arbor neighborhoods to explore the delights of local gardens, parks, and cafes. Other Thurs. rides: **"Thursday Evening Ride"** *(6:45 p.m., meet at the Fuller Pool parking lot, Fuller Rd.),* fast/moderate-paced 25-mile (996–9122) and slow-paced 15-mile (662–0205) rides around northeast Ann Arbor that include some good chances to improve your climbing skills. On May 3 & 31 only (weather permitting): **"Moonshadow Ride"** *(9 p.m. May 3 & 10 p.m. May 31, east end of Mitchell Field parking lot, Fuller Rd.),* slow-, moderate-, and fast-paced rides, 8–24 miles (424–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2802), along the Gallup Park pathway. *10 a.m., meet at Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 971–5763, 663–5060.*

★**Older Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thurs.* Activities, primarily for seniors, begin at 10 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. **Current Events** discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. *May 3:* U-M Public Health Genetics director J. Scott Roberts discusses **mild cognitive impairment** and a study investigating the impact of **genetic risk disclosure for Alzheimer's**. *May 10:* WCC journalism professor Dave Waskin on **"Journalism and Writing."** *May 17:* All invited to help make **Kiddush cups** for the JCC Early Childhood Center classrooms. Supplies provided. *May 24:* U-M community nursing students discuss **"Living with Chronic Pain."** *May 31:* Performance by the Hebrew Day School **Klez Kids** klezmer band. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free, except as noted. 971–0990.*

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Thurs.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play this intricate game played with colorful tiles. *10 a.m.–noon, Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

"The Cricket in Times Square": Wild Swan Theater. *May 3–6.* This award-winning local children's theater presents Jeff Duncan's adaptation of George Selden's beloved children's novel about friendship, teamwork, and saying goodbye. The story concerns Chester Cricket, who's accidentally transported from the Connecticut countryside to a Times Square newsstand. Suitable for kids in grades K–6. Interpreted in American Sign Language; audio description and backstage "touch" tours available by prearrangement for blind audience members. *10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $12 (kids & seniors, $8; lap passes for kids age 2 & under, $3) in advance and at the door. 995–0530.*

★**"Tales of the Village Rabbi: A Manhattan Chronicle": Temple Beth Emeth Spirituality Book Club.** *May 3 & 8.* All invited to discuss Harvey Tattelbaum's humorous memoir about being a rabbi in Greenwich Village in the late 1950s and 1960s. *Noon–1:30 p.m. (May 3) & 7:30–9 p.m. (May 8), TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. cantorannie@gmail.com, 665–4744.*

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** *Every Thurs.* Performances by area musicians and dancers. *May 3:* Jazz standards by the **Paul VornHagen Trio.** *May 10:* Jazz standards by vocalist **Marlena Studer,** accompanied by acclaimed jazz pianist **Glen Tucker.** *May 17:* Vintage American pop by the **Choral Connection.** *May 24:* Cellist **Suzanne Smith.** *May 31:* Modern Dance by **People Dancing & Friends.** *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

"Rush Hour Relief": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Every Thurs.* Whole Foods staffers discuss wine. Tastings with cheese and appetizers. Topics: **Red Bordeaux** (May 3), **sparkling wines** (May 10), **Pacific Northwest reds** (May 17), and **"Great Wines for Grilling Time"** (May 24). Also, a Founder's Brewing Company (Grand Rapids) **beer tasting** at 5 p.m. on May 4 (price varies). *5–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods wine bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $17. 997–7500.*

"Shiraz-A-Ma-Taz": Vinology. 5-course dinner paired with Australian wines. Also, a talk on wine by Negociants USA representative Anthony Hendrie. *6 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main. $65 (plus tax & tip). Reservations required. 222–9841.*

★**Comhaltas.** *Every Thurs.* All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. *6:30–9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. 474–1569.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $5. 761–6691.*

★**Ann Arbor Go Club.** *Every Sun. & Thurs.* Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *7 p.m.–midnight (Thurs.) & 1–6 p.m. (Sun.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417–5547.*

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fundraiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. *7 p.m., CUBS' AC in Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial. $10. 973–6084, 663–0036.*

★**"Take a Hike!": Ann Arbor District Library.** A city natural area preservation staff naturalist leads a hike through the popular 147-acre **Bird Hills Nature Area** to look for its plentiful wildlife and learn about ecological restoration. *7–8:30 p.m., meet in*

Etienne Charles

Trinidad traditions

Jazz is a creole music, created out of a blend of different sources—African, African-American, Afro-Caribbean, French, Spanish, and who knows what else. As it has evolved, it has absorbed other traditions but has also periodically returned to various mother-wells to find new stimulus and inspiration. The early history of the music, much of which took place in New Orleans, was particularly marked by the "Spanish tinge" that came from various islands of the Caribbean. In places such as Haiti, Trinidad, and Cuba, African traditions were vigorously preserved and blended in various ways with European elements, creating new musical traditions that continue to develop to this day.

Trumpeter Etienne Charles, born in Trinidad and raised in a highly musical family, eventually made his way to this country and finished his musical education at the Juilliard School. Like others of his generation he has embraced the rich tradition of bebop and of trumpet players like Dizzy Gillespie. But in many ways Charles has the entire tradition of the jazz trumpet at his fingertips, from Storyville brothel anthems to the virtuosic, harmonically complex flights of Gillespie. It is not easy to develop a new take on the tradition, but Charles has managed to do this by being true to his personal history.

The Trinidad traditions that permeate Charles's music are different from the more commonly encountered Afro-Cuban styles. The rhythms, while no less complex, are more easygoing, the steel drum timbres unique, and the vocal stylings often deceptively relaxed. We often think of calypso as a laid-back form of dance music, but the lyrics, especially early on, have often been highly political, commenting on events of the day and the struggles against economic and racial injustice. Sometimes funny, sometimes quite raunchy, and often laced with a bit of sadness, the various forms of calypso have been an integral part of island life.

Even after all that sophisticated musical training, Charles remains passionately dedicated to the music he grew up with. From the way he carries himself on stage to the way he approaches the hand drum, tinges of Trinidad form an essential part of his personality. His recordings have featured calypso vocals that celebrate a marriage of bebop with the legacy of such Trinidadian masters as Lord Kitchener and the Mighty Sparrow, and his trumpet playing likewise exhibits the musical flavors of his island home. Even when he's playing up-tempo numbers, there's a relaxed, behind-the-beat spice in the mix, and his ballads are deliciously wistful, as if he were thinking of other places, other sunsets, other rooms.

These days Charles tours all over the world, but his new home is in the Midwest, at Michigan State University, where he teaches in the jazz program. He brings a band of fellow professors to the Kerrytown Concert House on May 4.

—Piotr Michalowski

the parking lot off Newport just north of M-14. Free. 327–8301.

★**"More than Morels: Michigan Seasonal Mushrooms": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Michigan Mushroom Hunters Club president Phil Tedeschi. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-sole shoes. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 971–0990.*

U-M Life Sciences Orchestra. Oriol Sans conducts this ensemble of musicians from the U-M medical and life sciences staff in 4 pieces with water themes: Mendelsson's *Hebrides Overture,* Wagner's *Flying Dutchman Overture,* Respighi's *Fountains of Rome,* and Beethoven's Symphony no. 6 in F major. *7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $1 suggested donation. 936–ARTS.*

★**Spring Concert: Ypsilanti Community Choir.** Ariel Toews-Ricotta directs this 60-member volunteer choir in American popular, folk, and gospel songs as well as the national anthem. *7:30 p.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River St., Ypsilanti. Free. 481–9285.*

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Apr. 19–May 27.* Carla Milarch directs the Michigan premiere of John Logan's Tony-winning drama about the great American abstract expressionist painter Mark Rothko. Over the course of 2 years working on his famous commission to provide a series of murals for the Four Seasons restaurant, Rothko is challenged by his apprentice in a way that causes him to question what he has become. "*Red* may be all talk and no action—but what talk!" says *Variety* reviewer Marilyn Stasio. "John Logan sends American abstract impressionist painter Mark Rothko into battle with his demons in this electrifying play of ideas, and the artist's howls are pure music." Stars Mark Rademacher and Kevin Young. *7:30 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Leaving Iowa": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *May 3–6.* Michael Schacherbauer directs local actors in Tim Clue and Spike Manton's poignant "Corn Belt comedy." Returning to his native Winterset, Iowa, after the death of his father, a writer revisits childhood spots, meets offbeat and possibly dangerous midwesterners, and relives a childhood spent trapped in the back of a station wagon on seemingly endless family vacations. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $20 (seniors age 60 & over, $18; students, $10) in advance at a2ct.org, the A2CT office (322 W. Ann), & by phone, and at the door. 971–2228.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Nick Gaza: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 3–5.* A veteran guest performer in TV sitcoms, Gaza is a very funny and playfully irreverent stand-up comic who bills himself as "The Laziest Working Man in Show Business," sometimes even performing in PJs. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $8 (Thurs.) & $11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

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4 FRIDAY

★**"Whitmore Lake Coffee Break": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Fri. Slow-paced 20-mile ride to the Coney Island in Whitmore Lake. *10 a.m., Olson Park, Dhu Varren at Pontiac Trail. Free. 663–4498.*

"The Cricket in Times Square": Wild Swan Theater. See 3 Thursday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Mon. & Fri.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. *12:30–4:30 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Fun Friday": U-M Natural History Museum.** With screenings of the 30-minute planetarium show ***Star Talk*** (5:30, 6:30, 7:30, & 8:30 p.m.) about what you can see in the current night sky, a reading of Eric Carle's ***The Very Hungry Caterpillar*** (6 & 7 p.m.) with images from the book projected on the planetarium dome, and 30-minute **dinosaur tours** (6, 7, & 8 p.m.). Kids must be accompanied by an adult. Space limited for each event. *5:30–9 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free admission. $3 for Star Talk. 764–0478.*

"6th Annual Bee on Board for Literacy Spelling Bee": Family Learning Institute. All invited to watch as many as 20 3-member teams representing local organizations, nonprofits, and businesses vie for a trophy. (All encouraged to enter a team.) Proceeds benefit the Family Learning Institute. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and music by the Community High Jazz Band. *7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $35 in advance only at familylearninginstitute.org, by emailing info@familylearninginstitute.org, and by phone. 995–6816.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 663–2037.*

★**"Midnight Madness": Main Street Area Association.** Sidewalk entertainment by the Detroit Mexican dance troupe **Ballet Folklorico Moyocoyani Izel** (7–8:30 p.m.) and other entertainers TBA. Also, many stores have special sales and are open late. *7–9 p.m., downtown Main St. area. Free. 668–7112.*

★**"Friday Night Live": Mark's Carts Courtyard.** *Every Fri.* With different local musicians each week. Weather permitting. Tonight: **Salmagundi,** a Detroit band that plays classic horn-powered Memphis-style rock 'n' roll. *7–9 p.m., Mark's Carts, 211 W. Washington. Free. 224–8859.*

"An Evening with Nathaniel Tarn": One Pause Poetry. *See review, p. 57.* Reading by this internationally acclaimed poet who is known for his work translating Pablo Neruda. His poetry is informed by his extensive travels and his work as an academic anthropologist. His most recent poetry collection, *Ins and Outs of the Forest Rivers,* has been called an immense cry of anger, grief, and joy in the midst of wars, ecological disasters, and dwindling material and spiritual resources. On May 5, One Pause director Sarah Messer interviews Tarn (10:30 a.m.–noon). *7 p.m., METAL, 220 Felch. Free. 604–0090.*

★**Spring Concert: Women's Chamber Chorus.** David Perample directs this independent 30-member local women's chorus in a varied program that ranges from music by Mozart and John Rutter to Cole Porter and Andrews Sisters songs. Also, a performance by the group's **Joyous Ringers** handbell choir. Piano accompanist is Andrew Anderson. *7:30 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free; donations accepted. 355–7738.*

"Fools": Huron High School Players. *Apr. 27 & 28 and May 4 & 5.* Pam Cardell directs students in Neil Simon's fairy tale about a schoolteacher who lands a job in an idyllic Russian hamlet that has been cursed with chronic stupidity for 200 years. *7:30 p.m., Huron High Little Theatre, 2727 Fuller. Tickets $8 (students & seniors, $6) in advance and at the door. 994–2095.*

"West Side Story": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. *Apr. 28 & 29 and May 4–6.* Ashley Park directs Pioneer students in Arthur Laurents' spirited musical adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet,* set in New York and featuring the rival street gangs the Sharks and the Jets. The beloved Leonard Bernstein-Stephen Sondheim score includes such favorites as "Maria," "Tonight," and "America." *7:30 p.m., PHS Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Tickets $15 (seniors age 65 & over, students, & PHS staff; $10) in advance at showtix4u.com, and at the door. 994–2191.*

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": Skyline High School. *May 4 & 5.* Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in William Finn and Rachael Sheinkin's Tony-winning 2004 one-act musical comedy about 6 anxiously overachieving adolescents competing in a spelling bee run by 3 adults who have barely managed to escape childhood themselves. Cast: Frank

Newspaper Diary

Beautiful and astonishing

Joanne Leonard's twenty-one photographs at the U-M Institute for the Humanities gallery are what the 71-year-old feminist calls "visual analogies." In each are two images (one a news photo and the other a book reproduction, visually if not historically connected) that Leonard photographs and turns into one.

Describing them (as she does in the subtitle of the show) as "trompe-l'oeil" ("trick the eye") photographs is a distraction, because the whole idea of deception seems counter to the spirit of the artist and the show. There is no visual trickery here—no diffused light, no blurred edges, no wondering if you can pick up the book or reposition the newspaper clipping resting on it. Putting the title of the show aside (because to my mind it is not a diary, either, any more than my collection of newspaper tear sheets is a diary), Leonard's photographs are arrestingly beautiful and historically astonishing.

The similarities of color, gesture, composition, and feel within each photo are striking. They include Emil Nolde's painting *Flood* juxtaposed with the April 2010 news photo and headline "Volcanic Ash Grounds Air Traffic in Northern Europe," and a 2006 news photo of a Peugeot factory in Slovakia photographed alongside a book reproduction of Diego Rivera's 1933 mural "Detroit Industry."

A departure from this is Leonard's *Anne's Tree.* This one touches more deeply because it brings together a book reproduction of the living chestnut tree that gave Anne Frank a sense of life during her years in hiding in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam and an October 2007 news photo headlined, "A New Wave of Support for Anne Frank's Ailing Tree." Says Leonard, "When I try to explain, *to myself even*, why my work is autobiographic, I think Anne Frank." (Leonard was eleven years old when Anne Frank's diary was first published in the U.S. in 1952.)

Resting on a chair just inside the gallery is Leonard's own diary, *Being in Pictures: An Intimate Photographic Memoir.* I recommend looking through it. It includes Leonard's earlier, more intimate photographs of her psychoanalyst mother, her Holocaust survivor father, her identical twin sister, and her daughter Julia as a child, and it helps us better understand Leonard's inclination toward diaries and everyday records. It also gives us a better understanding of what she sees and responds to.

The most private and stunning photograph juxtaposes a book reproduction of Leonard's "Julia, half asleep"—a photo of her daughter as a young child, lying naked on a bed, her right arm stretched across her body, her knees bent, feet touching the floor—with a *New York Times* photograph of Eros in the identical pose. Leonard found the Eros while reading the newspaper one morning in December 2011. "That's a 2,000 year old bronze!" she says, still amazed.

Clever and thought provoking, Leonard's *Newspaper Diary* offers us a different kind of engagement with newspapers and books and, mostly through associations, brings us home. "It's part of a way of going forward," she says.

—Jan Schlain

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Bach School Mural Project Exhibition* (May 21–June 3). A large nature-themed mural created using tiles that were painted by Bach Elementary School students. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 994-8004.

Ann Arbor District Library, Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower. *New Work: Mixed Media Paintings by Chrisa Craig* (May 2–June 14). *Tibetan Children Thangka Paintings* (May 2-June 14). 25 thangka paintings by Tibetan children. A thangka usually depicts Tibetan Buddhist deities. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Gallery 55+, 2401 Plymouth Rd. *Photographs by Bob Kelch and Mary Westhoff* (May 1–July 27). Reception May 20, 4 p.m. 998–9353.

Jewish Community Center Amster Gallery, 2935 Birch Hollow. *Aviva Kleinbaum* (May 7–June 30). Fiber art hangings made with hand-dyed boiled wool. Reception date TBA. Mon.–Thurs. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m. 971–0990.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *John Lilley Photographs* (May 2–June 3). Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

LePop Gallery, 101 N. Main. *Xuan Alyfe* (through May 13). Works by this Spanish street artist. Mon.–Wed. 6–9 p.m., Thurs.-Sat. noon-9 p.m., Sun. by appointment. 409–1184.

River Gallery, 120 N. Main, Chelsea. *Entourage & Habits* (May 5–June 16). Sculptures by Michelle Tock York and color-reduction woodcuts by Jenny Pope. Reception May 5, 5–8 p.m. Tues.–Fri. 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun. noon–4 p.m. 433–0826.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Through Women's Eyes* (May 3–26). Paintings by members of the U-M Faculty Women's Club. Reception May 4, 5–7 p.m. Thurs.–Sat. 3–8 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. 480–2787.

U-M Bentley Historical Library, 1150 Beal. *Michigan in 3D* (through Aug. 31). Display of images scanned from 19th-century stereoscopic cards. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 764–3482.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. *Newspaper Diary: Trompe l'Oeil Photographs* (through May 31). Works by Joanne Leonard. Reception Apr. 5, 5:30–7 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Lane Hall, 204 S. State. *SuperWomen* (through May 31). 40 color photographs of women athletes, from Olympic medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersee to legally blind sled-dog racer Rachael Scdoris. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 647–0774.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *Peter Campus: Kiva* (May 5–Aug. 12). Works by pioneering video artist Campus. Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 763–UMMA.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Vice Versa* (May 8–June 17). Works by Nora Venturelli. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

Pelosi, Gracie Taylor-Loring, Freida Steiner, Josh Krivan, Richa Saran, Jessica Parent, Rachel Xydis, Sarah Lawlor, Alex Dean, Brian Farrell, Alexis Gulley, Kate Topham, and Christiana Hench. *7:30 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets $8 in advance at showtix4u.com, $10 at the door. 994–6515.*

Don White: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). *May 4 & 5.* This veteran singer-songwriter from Lynn, MA, writes sharp-witted songs about everyday life that blend pathos, humor, and biting satire, and his live shows feature a lot of impromptu storytelling and comedy. His fans include Christine Lavin and Livingston Taylor, and he's released several acclaimed CDs. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $17 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

Etienne Charles Quintet: Kerrytown Concert House. *See review, p. 59.* The Trinidad-born trumpeter-composer Charles, an MSU music professor, leads this group of area musicians in a program of Afro-Caribbean jazz. According to a *DownBeat* magazine reviewer, Charles "hones a velvet, supple tone that's as melodically captivating as it is rhythmically agile." With saxophonist Diego Rivera, pianist Mike Jellick, and bassist Rodney Whitaker, and a drummer TBA. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

★**"The Dreamer": People Dancing.** *May 4 & 5.* People Dancing artistic director Christina Sears-Etter and U-M media arts grad student Steve Joslin present a multimedia rock opera that sets Etter's choreography to Joslin's music and video projections to explore the surrealistic landscapes of dream worlds. Episodes include **"Untying the Knot"** (an ensemble exploration of connection, complication, and intricate patterns), **"For All That Is Lost"** (a solo exploring feeling-states rooted in loss, grief, and isolation), **"Darkness"** (a quartet hymn to automation and technology), **"Connect"** (a solo improvised by Cara Zonca that explores a woman driven by a fascination with technology and her own image), **"graft"** (a duet for 2 women about obsession), and **"Merely Edith"** (a serene, formally structured ensemble dance). *8 p.m., U-M Duderstadt Center Video Studio, 2291 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free; donations accepted. 368–7573.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

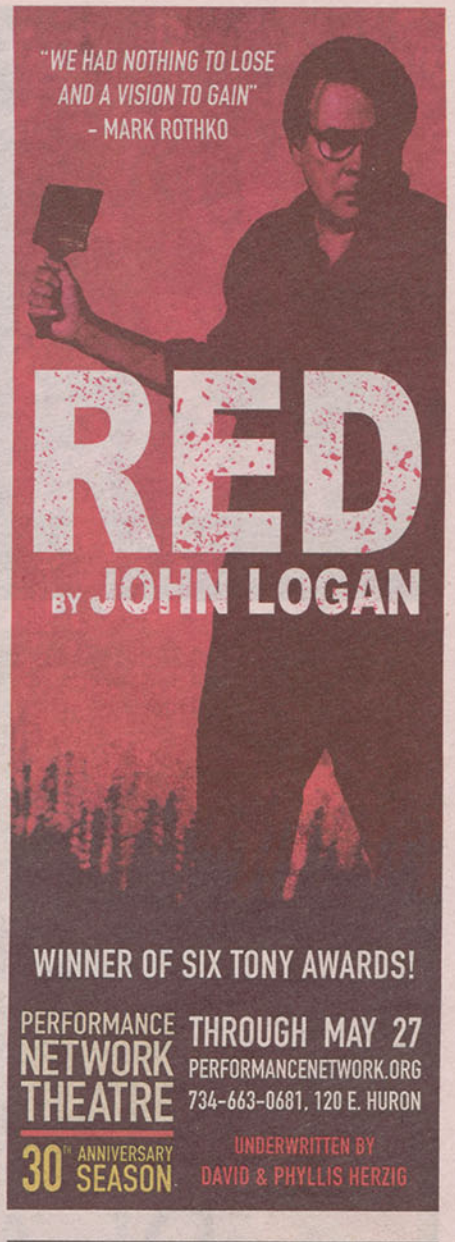
Nick Gaza: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Swing Dance Party: Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. *9 p.m.–midnight, Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. $5 (includes lessons; students with ID, $3). 417–9857.*

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *May 4–7.* Four nights of tango dance parties. Preceded by tango workshops. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Michigan Union Anderson Room. $15 (students, $10). umich.edu/~umtango.*

5 SATURDAY

★**"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sat.* Beginner-friendly slow-



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paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30–80 miles) round-trip rides to the Dexter Bakery. A very popular ride. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *9 a.m., meet at either Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., or at Barton Park, Huron River Dr. Free. 663–5060 (May 5 ride), 274–6350 (May 12), 996–9461 (May 19), 775–1156 (May 26).*

★**Group Ride: Velo Club.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* A ride of 50–70 miles with distance and pace (usually fast) determined by the assembled riders. The club also sponsors a **Thursday evening ride** for serious cyclists and those new to bicycle racing (6–8 p.m., meet at Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport Rd.). *9 a.m.–noon, meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. aavc.org.*

★**Spring Workday: Friends of Greenview and Pioneer Nature Areas.** All invited to help plant native trees, remove invasive garlic mustard and buckthorn, and maintain trails. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the entrance at Barnard Rd. on Greenview Rd. off Scio Church Rd. west of S. Seventh St. Free. 994–0874.*

★**"Family Comic Jam": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to work together as a family or part of a small group to make your own comic. Free comics from Vault of Midnight. *9 a.m.–noon, AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

9th Annual Quilt Show: St. Andrew's United Church of Christ Piece-Makers Quilt Group. Display and sale of 100 old and new quilts, some from the 19th century. Also, a sale of quilt supplies and a raffle. Lunch available (11 a.m.–2 p.m.). Proceeds provide quilts for patients at Mott Children's Hospital. *9 a.m.–4 p.m., St. Andrew's United Church of Christ, 7610 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. $4. 426–4980.*

★**"Corporate Personhood and Election Spending—What Can Be Done in Michigan?": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Talk by a speaker TBA. Followed by discussion. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. *9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

5th Annual Farm Festival: Braun & Helmer. A tractor & engine show, toy show, large flea market, petting farm, kids pedal pull, tractor pull, live auction, and more. Lunch available. Bake sale. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $2 (kids age 12 & under, free) admission. 368–1733.*

Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Festival: Jugglers of Ann Arbor. Jugglers of all ability levels invited to join jugglers from around Michigan and beyond for free-form juggling and workshops. Events include games, open juggling, lessons, a sale of juggling items, and more. *Note:* Attendees age 17 & under must be accompanied by a parent. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Wide World Sports Center, 2140 Oak Valley Dr. $2. (248) 990–8084.*

★**"Stories for All Ages": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Sat.* AADL staff read stories for listeners of all ages. *10–10:30 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Children's Storytime: Nicola's Books.** *Every Sat.* An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under. *11 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Gluten Free Tastefest": Plum Market.** Experts lead tastings of various gluten-free products. Also, live music (noon–4 p.m.) by Detroit R&B and soul singer-songwriter **Pato Margetic.** *11 a.m.–5 p.m., Plum Market, 375 N. Maple. Free. 827–5000.*

★**May Programs: Waterloo Recreation Area.** *Every Sat.* Programs presented by WRA park interpreter Katie McGlashen. *May 5 (11 a.m. & 2 p.m., Mill Lake Boat Launch, follow the signs from the north end of Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157):* **"Kayaking 101."** McGlashen introduces basic paddle strokes and kayak safety. Reservations required. *May 12 (11 a.m.):* **"Mother's Day Card Making."** All invited to use recycled paper and wildflower seeds to make a card that can be planted. *May 19 (9 a.m.):* **"Birding 101."** A walk along the trails to learn and practice techniques to spot and identify birds. *May 19 (2 p.m.):* **"Geocaching 101."** All invited to learn how to use a handheld GPS unit to navigate park trails on a treasure hunt. Bring a few small trinkets to trade, if you can. *May 26 (2 p.m., Crooked Lake Boat Launch):* **"Fishing 101."** All invited to learn the basics of fishing. Equipment provided. *Various times, Eddy Discovery Center (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area, Chelsea. Free. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**"Eye Dissection": U-M Natural History Museum.** *Every Sat. & Sun. except May 19.* Hands-on 20-to 30-minute demo of dissecting a cow's eye, with discussion of how it resembles and differs from the eyes of other animals and of people. *11 a.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Four different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (11:30 a.m. Sat., 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun.) is an exploration of the current night sky. ***Larry Cat in Space*** (12:30 p.m. Sat.) is a playful cartoon about an inquisitive cat that learns more than it wanted to know about life in space when it stows away on a shuttle to be with its owner, a scientist on her way to the Moon. ***Expanded View*** (Sat. 2:30 p.m.) is an exploration of deep space objects through the eyes of the Hubble, Spitzer, and Chandra space telescopes, each of which operates in different parts of the electromagnetic spectrum. ***Origins of Life*** (2:30 p.m. Sun.) is an audiovisual show about the prebiotic chemistry of the Universe after the Big Bang, the formation of the stars and solar systems, the first life on Earth, the great extinctions, and the search for extraterrestrial life. *11:30 a.m. & 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $5. 764–0478.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24–hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at the park office. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $7 per player; free for spectators. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

★**"O-Meet": Southeastern Michigan Orienteering Club.** *May 5 & 13.* All invited to try this at-your-own-pace sport of reading maps and compasses to follow an outdoor course. Maps, some compasses available. *May 5:* **Peach Mountain,** North Territorial Rd. (1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. 657–4408. *May 13:* **Crooked Lake,** Waterloo Recreation Area, follow Orienteering signs on Green Rd., 2 miles north off Clear Lake Rd. from I-94 exit 153. 834–2201. *Noon–2 p.m., various locations. Free. $10 (members, $5) for a map. michigano.org.*

★**Ann Arbor Women's Rugby vs. Dayton.** The May schedule also includes a Midwest Women's Rugby Division II match against Indianapolis (May. 19). *1 p.m., Riverside Park, 1009 Canal St. (off Wall St.). Free. annarborwomensrugby.com.*

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *May 5, 6, 19, & 20.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. *May 5 & 6:* **"Good Vibrations"** offers sound experiments, including the chance to see a flame extinguished by sound. *May 19 & 20:* **"Mighty Motion"** offers gravity and inertia experiments, including launching a tray of eggs with a broom. *1 & 3 p.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $10 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

U-M Detroit Observatory. *May 5 & 20.* Half-hour docent-guided tours of photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. *1–4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763–3482.*

★**"Spanish Storytimes": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Sat.* Native Spanish speakers tell stories and lead songs in Spanish for preschoolers through 5th graders. *1–1:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

"The Cricket in Times Square": Wild Swan Theater. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Kaffeeklatsch: Kempf House Museum. All invited for coffee, homemade cakes from traditional German recipes, piano music, and conversation. *2:30 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. $10. Reservations required. 994–4898.*

★**Printmaking Lecture: Ann Arbor Art Center.** Stewart & Stewart screenprinting (Bloomfield Hills) owner Norm Stewart discusses this year's *Print* exhibition, for which he was the juror. *3–5 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994–8004.*

"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment. *Every Sat.* Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. on May 5 only, a free **Kids Open Stage.** *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $15 per family. 662–8283.*

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** *May 5 & 19.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill

Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 994–9307.*

★In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion of ***Twelve Gates to the City,*** Daniel Omotosho Black's novel told from the perspective of a small-town schoolteacher and his deceased sister. *4 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Jan Krist and Jim Bizer: Ann Arbor District Library. These 2 veteran Detroit-area singer-songwriters perform some of their songs and discuss their influences. *4–5 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

Spring Concert: Ann Arbor Youth Chorale. Performances by the 2 choirs of this ensemble of talented local youth singers. The Descant Choir performs Eric Thiman's "The Path to the Moon," the Russian folk song "The Little Birch Tree," the calypso song "Shake the Papaya Down," Howard Goodall's "The Lord Is My Shepherd," Audrey Snyder's "Skylark and Nightingale," and Greg Gilpin's "Dance While the Music Sings to You." The Concert Choir performs works TBA. *4 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10 (kids, students, & seniors; $5) at the door. 996–4404.*

"Spiritual Spaghetti": One Voice Gospel Choir Fundraiser. The choir prepares and serves a spaghetti dinner followed at 7 p.m. by a program of gospel songs. Also, the choir is joined by the local jazz band **Maggie's Standard Time Band** in jazz standards by Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, and others. *6 p.m., St. Paul United Church of Christ, 122 W. Michigan, Saline. $15 (concert only, $10; age 11 & under, free). Reservations requested. 439–8462.*

"Kids Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids in grades K–5 invited for a pizza dinner, games, craft activities, and a screening of ***Puss in Boots,*** Chris Miller's charming 2011 animated film about a swashbuckling cat who's pitted against 2 murderous outlaws in possession of legendary magical beans which lead to great fortune. Also, a talent show for those who want to show off their performing skills. *6:30–10 p.m., JCC gym, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $25 (members, $20). Reservations required. 971–0990.*

★"Tibetan Singing Bowl Concert": The Himalayan Bazaar. Leah Mitchell plays Tibetan singing bowls, whose music is said to restore harmony and balance. *6:30 p.m., Himalayan Bazaar, 218 S. Main. Free. 997–7229.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Mark Hillegonds calls contras to live music by the **Stout Hearted String Band.** All dances taught; no partner needed. Wear flat, smooth-sole shoes. *7–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $11 (members, $10; students, $5). 769–1052.*

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

"Fools": Huron High School Players. See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"West Side Story": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": Skyline High School. See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Don White: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). See 4 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Dreamer": People Dancing. See 4 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Nick Gaza: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 4 Friday. Tonight: a dance party at the Michigan League Ballroom (8 p.m.–midnight) and an **"All-Night Milonga"** (1–5 a.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., just south of Oak Valley Dr.). 8 p.m. & 1 a.m.

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: danceRevolution Dance Studio. *May 5 & 19.* High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5. (313) 808–0358.*

6 SUNDAY

★Horse Show: Spur of the Moment Club. A judged amateur riding event featuring kids and adults riding English, western, and halter styles. Concessions. *Note:* New location. *8 a.m.–about 7 p.m. (races & games begin around 3 p.m. and last until about 6 p.m.), Woodbine Farm, 9976 W. Liberty (east of M-52 between Parker & Guenther), Lima Twp. Free admission. spurhorseshow.com.*

★Spring Hikes: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Two hikes led by WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner. **"Sunday Morning Bird Walk"** *(8–10 a.m., West Lake Preserve, meet on the north side of Waterloo Rd. between Werkner and McKinley, east of M-52, Chelsea).* Bring binoculars if you have them. **"Wildflowers of Embury Woods"** *(2–4 p.m., Park Lyndon North to carpool, North Territorial Rd. east of M-52, Lyndon Twp.),* a hike through this small woods to look at its rich variety of wildflowers and ferns. *Different times & locations. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

34th Annual Burns Park Run: Burns Park PTO. Around 1,000 people ages 5–85 attend this popular family affair. This year's event offers 5-km and 10-km chip-timed races, a 5-km walk along beautiful tree-lined streets, and a half-mile kid-popular "fun run" ($5) around the park. Medals for overall male & female winners in both races, male & female masters, male & female grand masters, male & female top 3 per age group, top male & female barefoot runners, and all finishers in kindergarten and grade school. Also, raffle prizes from local merchants. Proceeds benefit Burns Park PTO programs. *8:30 a.m. (5-km run), 8:40 a.m. (10-km run), & 10 a.m. (fun run), Burns Park, 1414 Wells. $15 for the 5-km & 10-km events in advance at burnsparkrun.org by noon May 4 (late registration, $20). 747–6952.*

★Sunday Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Sun.* Round-trip rides with various paces, distances, and destinations. *May 6:* **"Zukey Lake Tavern Brunch Ride."** Fast/moderate-paced 62-mile (476–4944) and slow-paced 40-mile ride (996–4985) rides to Zukey Lake Tavern in Pinckney for brunch. **"The Gravel Grovel."** Fast/moderate-paced 45-mile ride (662–0742, 996–8079) on back roads around the county, with a stop for lunch. *May 13:* **"Mother's Day Democratic Ride."** The assembled risers choose their own pace and destination. *May 20:* **"Hathaway House Ride."** Fast-paced 85-mile ride (255–8853) to Blissfield for brunch at the century-old Hathaway House restaurant. A moderate-paced 65-mile ride (255–8853) to the same destination leaves at 10 a.m. from the municipal parking lot on Ann Arbor St. at US-12 in Saline. *May 27:* **"Memorial Day Sunday Democratic Ride."** Pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

33rd Annual Show 'n' Shine Car Show & Swap Meet: Ypsilanti Area Street Rods. Dozens of slick street rods, sleek muscle cars, and elegant antique autos. Also, muffler rapping contests, in which parked street rodders stomp on the gas to see whose engine is most deafening. Games, a Cub Scout pinewood derby, prizes, a DJ, food vendors, and a swap meet. Preceded on May 5 by a kickoff party (6–9 p.m.). *9 a.m.–4 p.m., Riverside Park near Depot Town, Ypsilanti. $2 admission; $20 to show a car. 649–7980, yasr.com.*

★Bicycle Riding Club: Jewish Community Center. All invited to join a leisurely 90-minute round-trip ride to various places of interest around town. *9:45 a.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★"Spring Fling Regatta": U-M Sailing Club. All invited to watch races between club members and others who want to enter (it's free) in sailboats up to 18 feet long. *10 a.m., Baseline Lake, 8010 Strawberry Lake Rd., left from Mast off North Territorial. Free. Preregistration requested by emailing fsleon@gmail.com. 426–0920.*

★Spring Ride & Festival: Bike Ypsi. 15- and 30-mile bike rides. Followed at 11:30 a.m. by a rally and **barbecue,** bike decorating, games, and information on bike maintenance, bike routes, and more. Also, a **bike parade** (1 p.m.). Helmets required for riders age 17 & under. Free tune-ups and ride registration begin at 9 a.m. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., Recreation Park, 1015 Congress, Ypsilanti. Free. bike.ypsi.org.*

★Fairywalk 2012: Washtenaw Wanderers Volkssporting Club. Walk at your own pace, along a 5- or 10-km route, to view the downtown fairy doors and other magical sights. All abilities welcome. Do not feed the fairies. Dogs and rattlesnakes must be leashed. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., maps available at TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. Free ($7 for a fairy-door magnet). 649–5024.*

★"Tibetan Buddhism": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Sun.* Talk by **Gelek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994–3387.*

The Sunday Artisan Market. *Every Sun.* Juried market that features local handmade arts and crafts.

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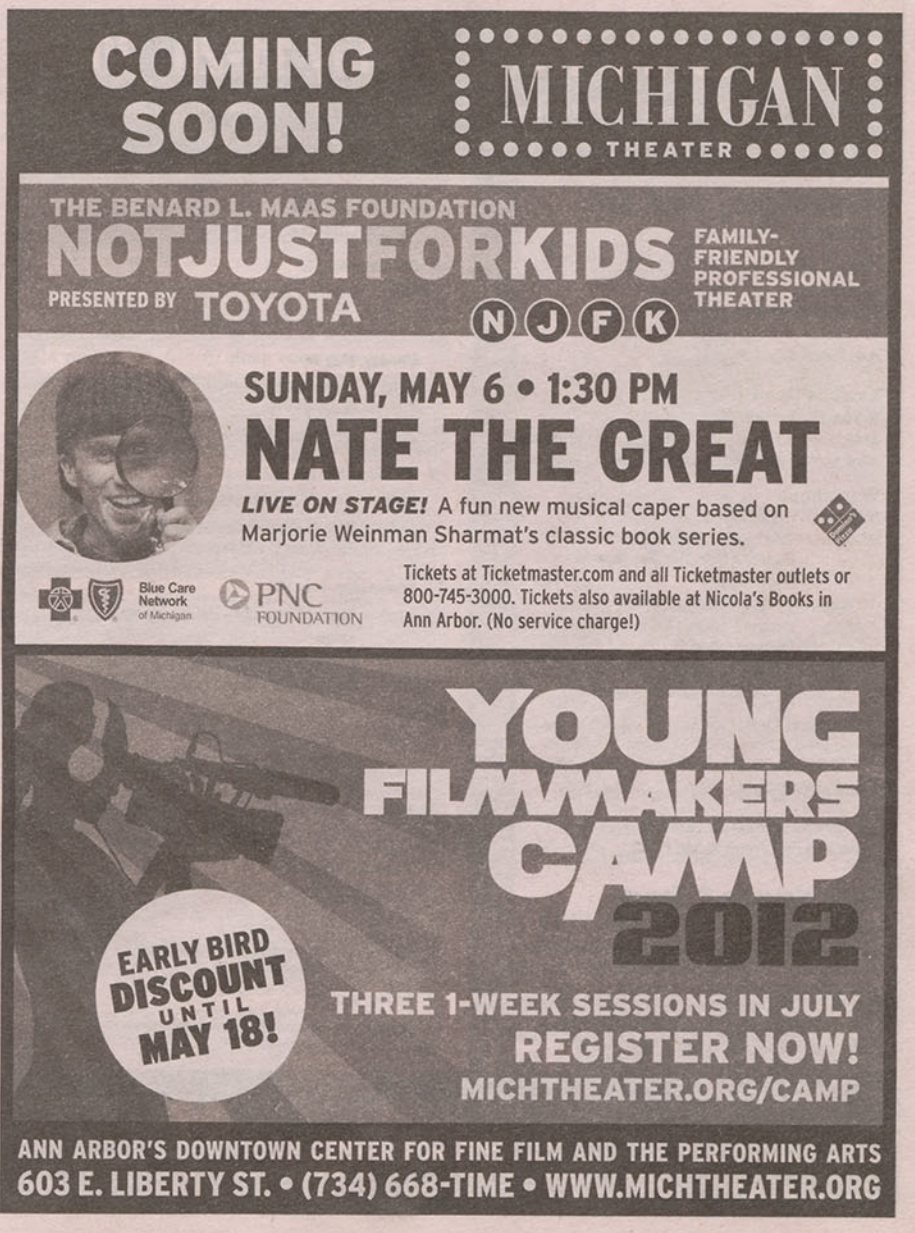
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OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, May 12, 2012

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

and

Monday, May 14, 2012

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

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Senior Living Week • May 11-20, 2012

The only annual event that brings together the people who provide senior resources, services and products with those who need them.

Senior Living Week Expo

Exhibits and Workshops

Friday, May 11
Washtenaw Community College
Morris Lawrence Building
4800 East Huron River Drive,
Ann Arbor, MI

Exhibits Open
8:30am - 3:15pm
Meet with providers of senior housing, home health care and other senior support products and services.

Workshops

8:30am	Registration
9:00am	The Multiple Threats to Your Family's Security and How to Avoid Them
10:30am	Independence at Home
1:45pm	On the Leading Edge of Optimal Rehabilitation
3:15pm	Normal Aging: When is a Geriatric Assessment Needed?

Registration for ALL Senior Living Week Workshops is required. Contact the Housing Bureau for Seniors at (734) 998-9339 or visit our website at www.med.umich.edu/seniors.

Box lunches for May 11 are available for purchase with Registration Form.

Open Houses & Tours

Saturday, May 12 - Sunday, May 20

Brecon Village • Brookhaven Manor Retirement Community
Carpenter Place • Glacier Hills Senior Living Community
Hillside Terrace Retirement Community • Huron Woods
Sanctuary at St. Joseph's Village • Silver Maples of Chelsea
Sunrise of North Ann Arbor • The Cedars of Dexter

For details visit www.med.umich.edu/seniors

Workshops

Saturday, May 12 - Friday, May 18

Saturday, May 12	
10:00	Wellness: the Key to Prevention
1:00	How to Avoid Becoming a Victim of Fraud
Monday, May 14	
10:00	Comparing Costs: My Home vs. Senior Housing
2:00	Living with Low Vision
Tuesday, May 15	
11:00	Living Safely and Independently at Home
2:00	New Health Care Legislation: What Seniors Should Know and Expect
Wednesday, May 16	
10:00	Make a Difference - Leave a Charitable Legacy
10:30	Understanding Long Term Care and Cost Options with Assisted Living Care and Nursing Homes
12:30	Focus on Your Finances
2:30	Aging in Place and Making Your Home Work for You
4:30	Local Public Transportation - Maintaining Your Independence and Mobility
Thursday, May 17	
10:00	Keeping the Keys
12:30	Dementia 101
2:30	Do You Need to See a Geriatrician Before Any Surgery?
Friday, May 18	
10:00	Successfully Navigating Transitions in Medical Care

Organized by:
Housing Bureau for Seniors
2401 Plymouth Road, Suite C, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

University of Michigan Health System

For complete schedule and registration information visit www.med.umich.edu/seniors or call 734-998-9336

May 6: **"May Day Celebration,"** with a chance for kids to decorate a May pole (noon–2 p.m.) and do a May Day dance. *May 13:* **"Mother May I?"** Free Italian ice, flowers, and chocolate for moms. Also, kids crafts for Mother's Day. *11 a.m.–4 p.m., Farmers' Market, Kerrytown. Free admission. 913–9622.*

★**Mature Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** *Every Sun.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. *May 6:* Laura Berg plays the DVD **"Samuel and Saul,"** an episode from the Teaching Company series on the Old Testament. *May 13:* All invited for a **potluck and planning meeting.** *May 20:* All invited to share experiences about their **recent travels.** *May 27:* All invited for **conversation.** *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

★**H.A.C. Ultimate.** *Every Sun.* All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *11:15 a.m., Mitchell Field, Fuller Rd. Free. hac_ultimate@ameritech.net, 846–9418.*

"Rock Music Concert for Kidz": Mister Laurence Experience. This popular local kiddie-rock trio—Mister Laurence, his wife Princess Melinda, and the animatronic OSO the Drumming Bear—performs zany originals and clever arrangements of original kiddie tunes billed as "sophisticated enough for the grownup ear, yet silly enough to keep the little ones glued." The program includes material from their new CD, *The Teddy Bear's Picnic.* Raffle of a MLE music video. *Noon–12:45 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $5 (family, $10). 883–0964, 662–8283.*

Tour: Kempf House Museum. *Every Sun.* Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it circa 1900. *1–4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Free; donations accepted. 994–4898.*

Contact Improv. *Every Sun.* All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. *1–3 p.m., Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

★**"Comic Artists Forum": Ann Arbor District Library.** Cartoonist **Gale Williams,** creator of the weekly webcomic *Patbird and Galesaur*, demonstrates how to color comics using the "flatting" process in Adobe Photoshop and shares tips and tricks to speed up your coloring process. Bring your favorite drawing tools, paper provided. *1–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Taking Care of You: Integrative Medicine Seminar": U-M Department of Family Medicine.** Health talks by U-M family medicine professors, including Amy Locke on **"An Integrative Approach to Digestive Health"** and Sara Warber on **"Healthy Hearts: Integrating Natural Approaches with State-of-the-Art Care."** Refreshments. *1–3 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Free. Preregistration recommended at med.umich.edu/famed/seminar.html, or by phone. 998–7120, ext. 264.*

"Nate the Great": Theatreworks USA (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). This renowned NYC–based children's theater troupe returns to the Michigan Theater to present its musical adaptation of the first volume of Marjorie Sharmat's series of books about a pint-sized kid detective who solves neighborhood mysteries with his faithful dog Sludge. He faces his toughest case when asked to help locate his neighbor's missing painting. For families with kids in grades K–4. *1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $14 (MTF members, $12) in advance at Nicola's Books (2513 Jackson), ticketmaster.com, & all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

Waterloo Natural History Association. *May 6, 12, & 20. May 6:* **"Michigan's Rattler."** DNR wildlife biologist Kristin Bissell displays a live massasauga rattlesnake and discusses its biology, habitat, and behaviors. *May 12 (1:30–3 p.m.):* **"Incredible Edibles."** WNHA wild foods expert Tom Jameson leads a 90-minute hike to learn about edible wild plants available locally and then prepares some wild food dishes (with recipes) to sample. *May 20:* **"Furry and Feathered Friends."** Howell Nature Center staff display and discuss a variety of live Michigan birds and mammals. *2 p.m. (unless otherwise noted), Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Space limited; preregistration required. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**"Spring Has Sprung at Springhill": Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy/Superior Land Conservancy.** All invited to join a hike of about a mile to enjoy spring wildflowers. Preceded at 1:15 p.m. by socializing. Refreshments. No pets. Be prepared for variable weather and muddy trails. *2–3:30 p.m., meet at 3401 Berry Rd. (just south of Ford Rd.), Superior Twp. Free. 484–6565.*

★**"Memory in the Mirror": Ann Arbor District Library.** Arbor Hospice grief support services staff lead a discussion for women about ways to include their deceased parents in the legacy they create in their own lives. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Kerry Tales: Daffy-Down-Dilly and Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★**"Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life": UMMA.** *May 6 & 20.* Docent-led tour of this exhibit of 116 works by Fluxus, the 1960s avant-garde art collective that believed anything could be art and anyone could make art. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

Square Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Martin Whitaker calls traditional square dances to live music by the **Rhythm Billies.** Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. Bring clean, non-marking shoes. *2–5 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $8 (students, $5; $1 discount for members; kids age 14 & under with a parent, free). 994–6494.*

★**2nd Annual Water Hill Music Fest.** *See cover.* This neighborhood music festival, which drew thousands of visitors last year, features performances by more than 100 local musicians on front porches in the Water Hill neighborhood—so called because of all the water-themed street names (Spring, Fountain, and Brooks). "If anybody complains about noise," says organizer Paul Tinkerhhess, "I will personally deliver a pair of earplugs to them." The musicians perform in various genres from classical to jazz to rock and include everyone from the nationally renowned trio **the Chenille Sisters** and virtuoso classical pianist **Waleed Howrani** to amateur family bands and young musicians such as the accomplished 11-year-old folk singer-songwriter **Magdalen Fossum.** The lineup also includes the duo of pop-rock singer-songwriter **Khalid Hanifi** and guitar genius **George Bedard,** veteran singer-songwriter **Dick Siegel** and his band **the Brandos,** the Latin jazz band **Los Gatos,** the alt-country rock band **Corndaddy,** the **Tree Town Community Chorus,** the local jazz ensemble the **Ron Brooks Trio,** the all-star rock 'n' roll band **the Vibratrons,** folk singer-songwriter **Chris Buhalis,** bassist **Brennan Andes & Friends,** the Detroit area big band **Accidentally Hip,** the alt-country Americana band **Broken Spokes,** classical violist **John Madison,** U-M opera director **Josh Major** and his daughter **Tasha Major,** the **Tinkerhess Family Band,** pianist **Renee Robbins,** singer-songwriter **Adam Samples,** a duo led by singer-songwriter **Gwenyth Hayes,** 10-year-old singer-pianist-percussionist **Ella Kocher,** the rock trio **the Uh Ohs,** and many others. Updated schedule of performance times and locations available at waterhill.org. Programs available on the day of the event at Big City Bakery and from volunteers on foot. *Rain date:* May 13. *2–6 p.m., Water Hill neighborhood north of Miller bounded by Brooks, Sunset, and the train tracks. Free. info@waterhill.org.*

"West Side Story": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 4 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Cricket in Times Square": Wild Swan Theater. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Pokemon League: Get Your Game On.** *Every Sun.* All invited to play this popular card game and trade cards with other players. *3 p.m., Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. Free. 786–3746.*

★**"The Civic Chorus's Greatest Hits": Ann Arbor Civic Chorus.** Linda Jones directs this popular local amateur chorus. Accompanist is Ted Wyman. *3 p.m., Forsythe Middle School Auditorium, 1655 Newport at Sunset. Free. 994–2300, ext. 53203.*

Spring Concert: Chaverim B'Shirim. This local Jewish choir performs a program featuring music from 2 1960s Sheldon Harnick and Jerry Bock musicals, the Pulitzer-winning *Fiorello* and *She Loves Me.* Refreshments. *3 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Donation. 971–0990.*

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor Docu Fest. Screening of a different documentary film every Mon. FREE. 929–9979. Café Ambrosia, 326 Maynard, 7 p.m.

May 4: **"Blood in the Mobile"** (Frank Poulsen, 2010). Documentary about the illegal mining of "conflict minerals" that is financing a civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

May 11: **"I Am Fishead"** (Misha Votruba & Vaclav Dejcmar, 2011). Peter Coyote narrates this documentary about the extent to which contemporary society is shaped by psychopaths.

May 18: **"Houston, We Have a Problem"** (Nicole Torre, 2009). Engaging, often humorous documentary about the American oil industry and the growing conviction in Houston—the iconic oil city—that we must go "green" for a secure domestic energy future.

May 25: **"One Dude's Quest to Save Democracy"** (John Ennis, 2008). Documentary about the director's exploration of the various schemes that swing American elections.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

May 19: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

May 18: **"Saint Misbehavin': The Wavy Gravy Movie"** (Michelle Esrick, 2009). Documentary about the hippie icon, activist, and clown who's most widely known as the MC of the Woodstock festival. Followed by discussion.

Jewish Film Festival. *Apr 29–May 30.* Annual festival of documentary and feature films on Jewish themes. Tickets $10 (festival pass, $75). 971–0990. Michigan Theater, various times.

May 1: **"Dolphin Boy"** (Dani Menkin & Yonatan Nir, 2011). Documentary, filmed over the course of 4 years, about a boy from an Arab village in the north of Israel traumatized by a violent attack who is taken by his father to be treated with dolphins. Hebrew & Arabic, subtitles. 1:30 p.m. **"Tony Curtis: Driven to Stardom"** (Ian Ayres, 2011). Documentary about the life and career of the Hollywood icon. 5 p.m. **"Remembrance"** (Anna Justice, 2011). Drama about the reunion of a 52-year-old Jewish New Yorker and the Polish man who was her lover when they escaped from a German concentration camp in Poland 30 years earlier. German & Polish, subtitles. 8 p.m.

May 2: **"Strangers No More"** (Karen Goodman & Kirk Simon, 2011). Documentary about a Tel Aviv school where children from 48 different countries and diverse backgrounds come together to learn. Followed by **"Homecoming"** (Orna Ben Dor and Noa Maiman, 2010), a documentary about 3 non-Jewish teens born in Israel to foreign workers who came to Israel in search of a better life. Hebrew & English, subtitles. 1:30 p.m. **"Naomi"** (Eitan Tzur, 2010). Suspenseful psychological mystery about a 58-year-old astrophysics professor obsessively in love with his young wife. He discovers she has a lover, who soon turns up dead. Hebrew, subtitles. 5 p.m. **"Buried Prayers"** (Steven Meyer, 2010). Documentary about an archaeological expedition to unearth the keepsakes buried 6 inches underground by thousands of survivors of the Warsaw ghetto uprising who realized they were about to be executed. (English & Polish, subtitles). 8 p.m.

May 3: **"Sholem Aleichem: Laughing in the Darkness"** (Joseph Dorman, 2011). Documentary about the great Yiddish fiction writer and playwright. 5 p.m. **"Mabul"** (Guy Nattiv, 2011). On the eve of a 13-year-old boy's Bar Mitzvah, his autistic older brother returns home to demand that their family put an end to its dysfunctional ways. Hebrew, subtitles. 8 p.m.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, $8; MTF members, $7.50; films before 6 p.m., $7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Through May 3: **"The Kid with a Bike"** (Jean-Pierre Dardenne & Luc Dardenne, 2011). Abandoned by his father, a young boy is left in a state-run orphanage until the town hairdresser agrees to foster him on the weekends. French, subtitles.

Through May 3: **"We Need to Talk about Kevin"** (Lynne Ramsay, 2011). Thriller that stars Tilda Swinton as a mother struggling to love her strange child as his actions become increasingly vicious.

Opens May 4: **"Monsieur Lazhar"** (Philippe Falardeau, 2011). An Algerian immigrant is hired at a Montreal public school to replace a popular teacher who committed suicide in her classroom. French, subtitles.

"We Have a Pope" (Nanni Moretti, 2011). Drama about the relationship between a newly elected pope and his therapist. Italian & other languages, subtitles.

Opens May 11: **"Footnote"** (Joseph Cedar, 2011). Drama about a father and son who are rival professors in Talmudic studies at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Hebrew, subtitles.

Opens May 18: **"Best Exotic Marigold Hotel"** (John Madden, 2011). Comedy about British retirees who decide to save money by moving to India. Stars Judi Dench, Bill Nighy, & Maggie Smith.

May 18-20: **"Keyhole"** (Guy Maddin, 2011). Surreal dark drama about a gangster named Ulysses who embarks on an odyssey through his home one room at a time. Stars Jason Patric & Isabella Rossellini.

"Boy" (Taika Waititi, 2010). Dramatic comedy set in 1984 New Zealand about an 11-year-old boy who, having imagined his absent father as a hero, is disillusioned when his dad comes back looking for money.

May 20: **"Hook"** (Steven Spielberg, 1991). Fantasy adventure film starring Robin Williams as a grown-up Peter Pan recalled to Never-Never Land. Kids 12 & under, free. 1:30 p.m.

May 22-24: **"The Island President"** (Jon Shenk, 2011). Documentary about Maldives president Mohamed Nasheed's efforts to keep his country from disappearing under the sea.

May 25-30: **"Delicacy"** (David Foenkinos & Stéphane Foenkinos, 2011). Rom com starring Audrey Tautou as a young widow who's courted by a Swedish coworker. French, subtitles.

May 31–June 3: **"Cinetopia"** This first annual Michigan Theater film festival features 33 films screened over 4 days at 3 venues (Michigan Theater, State Theater, and Angell Hall). The films include narrative feature-length films and documentaries that recently premiered at international festivals such as Sundance and Berlin. Also, 3-D, classic, and silent films, and lectures and panel discussions with filmmakers and experts. Tonight: an **opening night screening** and reception (cost TBA). Updated schedule at michtheater.org. Tickets $15 per screening (Movie Mogul all-festival pass, $500). Time TBA.

Temple Beth Emeth "Movie Wednesday." FREE. 665–4744. 2309 Packard, 1 p.m. Followed by discussion. Snacks.

May 16: **"Waltz with Bashir"** (Ari Folman, 2008). Animated memoir of the director's experience as an Israeli soldier in the 1982 Lebanon War. Hebrew, German, English; subtitles.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umichanime.com. MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 4 p.m.–midnight.

May date TBA: **"Animania."** Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from Japanese TV series.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763–3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 9 p.m.

May 9: **"Allegro Non Troppo"** (Bruno Bozzeto, 1976). Animated parody of Disney's *Fantasia* that features 6 pieces of classical music set to alternately comic and tragic scenes.

★Fauré Concert: Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival. Braxton Blake conducts the **Heron Chamber Orchestra,** the **First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti Choir,** soprano **Olivia Betzen,** baritone **Carl Frank,** and organist **Colin Knapp** in Fauré's Requiem. In memory of First Presbyterian Church member George Liepa. *3 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. ypsipipes.org.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. *Every Sun.* The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents all-ages puppet shows by local writers featuring a variety of puppets created by local artists, including marionettes and shadow puppets. The stories often contain humorously intended social commentary that, like contemporary children's cartoons, some may consider inappropriate. *3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657–2337.*

★"Billie Girl": Rainbow Book Club. All invited to join a discussion of Vickie Weaver's Southern gothic novel about an orphan born at the beginning of the 20th century who manages to find nurturing relationships in the midst of a life of conflict and confusion. *4:30–7 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763–4168.*

★Ann Arbor Morris. *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance based on the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., outside Burton Tower. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 747–8138.*

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 4 Friday. Tonight: a dance party at the Michigan Union Ballroom. 8 p.m.–midnight.

7 MONDAY

★Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army. *Every Mon. except May 28.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & over. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

★"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Mon.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10–11 a.m., & Thurs. 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.–noon), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Bridge Party: Ann Arbor City Club. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge or social bridge. *12:30 p.m., AACC, 1830 Washtenaw. $6 (ACBL) & $2 (social). Reservations required by May 4. 662–3279.*

★Movie Matinee: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon.* Screening of a film TBA. Lunch available ($2.50), 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. *12:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

★Writing Group: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center. *Every Mon.* All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. *1–3 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★"Recovery Ride": Velo Club. *Every Mon.* Cyclists invited to join club members on this easy-paced ride of 20–30 miles. *6 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. aavc.org.*

"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. *Every Mon.* All invited to read from and discuss this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. Also, local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a **study group** on the book, every Thurs., noon–1:30 p.m. *6:45–8:45 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 327–0270.*

★"The Civilized Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Mon.* Slow-paced "no-drop" ride, 12–18 miles, to Dexter, with a possible stop for ice cream. A good ride for beginners. Other Mon. rides: **"Back Roads Ramble"** (9 a.m., meet at 960 Forest Rd. off Country Club Dr., Barton Hills), a slow-paced ride, 12–35 miles (761–2885, 663–5060), along dirt and gravel roads to Independence Lake and other low-traffic destinations. **"Paved Country Roads Ride"** *(5:30 p.m., meet at Royster Clark, 885 Parker Rd. at Pine Cross Lane just south of Jackson Rd.),* fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training rides, 18–24 miles (426–5116), along country roads west of town. On May 28 only: **"Memorial Day Democratic Ride"** *(9 a.m., Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St.),* a ride (994–6431) whose pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. *7 p.m. sharp, Wellington Park, Alice at Bruce St. (off Arborview from Miller). Free. 945–3133.*

★Science Fiction Readings: Nicola's Books. Readings by 4 science-fiction and fantasy writers. West Michigan novelist **Bethany Grenier** writes steampunk fantasies. Michigan writer **Jim Hines's** work re-imagines traditional fairytales. Detroit novelist **Emmy Jackson** writes about a post-apocalyptic America. Michigan novelist **Gary Olson** writes dark fantasies set in Detroit. Q&A and signings. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society. All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Tim Tikker. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($35 annual dues for those who join). 274–9463.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon. except May 28.* Jigs, reels, and strathspeys, usually with live music. All dances taught. No partner necessary. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5. 395–7782, 426–0241, 769–1052.*

Cambridge Piano Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. This classical quartet, currently in residence at the Cambridge (UK) International String Academy, performs Mozart's Piano Quartet No. 2 in E-flat major, Dohnani's Serenade for String Trio, and Brahms' Piano Quartet in G minor. With pianist

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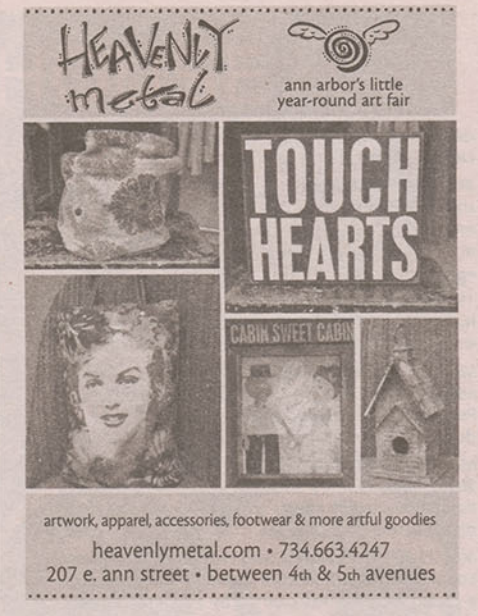
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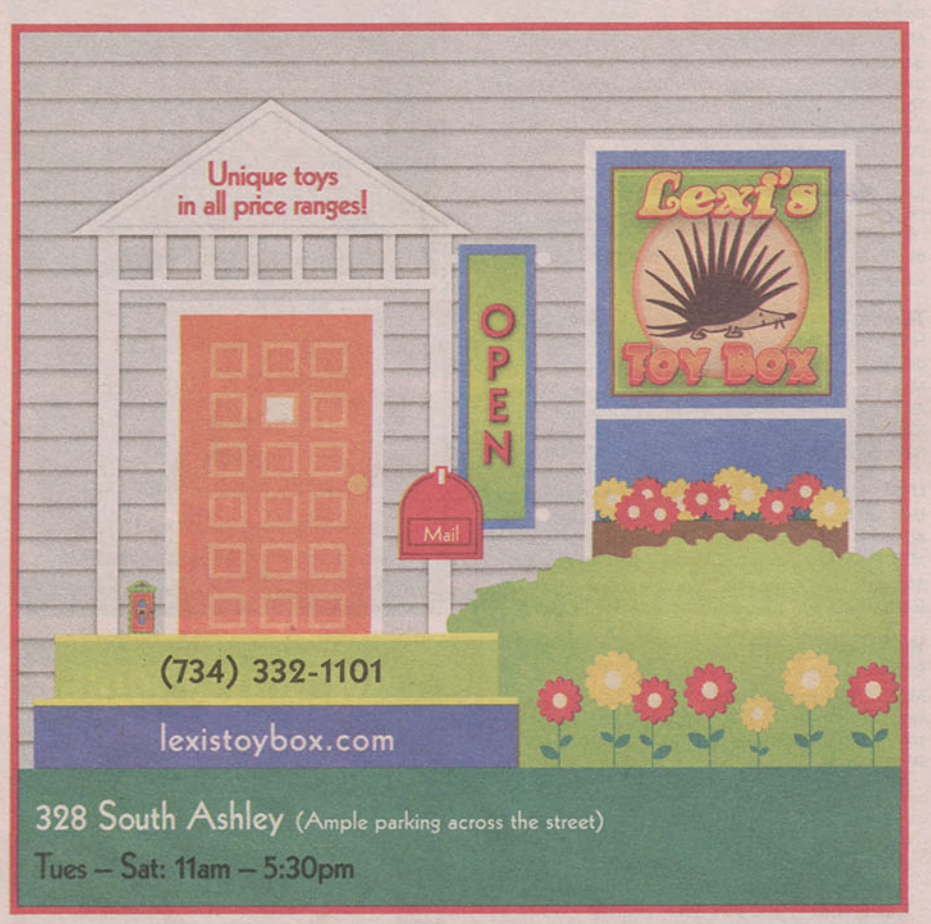

KidSport
University of Michigan Physical Education
June 18-Aug 10
KidSport (AM) ages 4-15
Mon-Fri 8 am to noon—Non-competitive
physical education program:
swimming, fitness games, team and individual sports
KidSport (PM) ages 8-15
Mon-Fri 1-4 pm—Different sport concentration each week:
golf, tennis, baseball, basketball,
cheerleading, dance and more
Partnering with Camp Explorations
(UM Museum of Natural History)
AM program for ages 8-12, PM program for ages 6-11
Astronomy, ecology, archaeology and more
Partnering with Outdoor Adventures (Ages 8-12)
Rock climbing, canoeing and hiking
Scholarship/discounts (KidSport only) and aftercare available
UM School of Kinesiology, 734.764.1342
kidsport@umich.edu • www.kines.umich.edu/umove/kidsport

Dmitri Vorobiev, U-M music professor and violinist **Stephen Shipps,** violist **Danae Witter,** and cellist **Suren Bagratuni.** *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 4 Friday. Tonight: a dance party at the Pittsfield Grange (3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., just south of Oak Valley Dr.). 8:30–11:30 p.m.

8 TUESDAY

Marcia Coyle: U-M Margaret Waterman Town Hall Celebrity Lecture Series. Talk by this journalist, the Washington bureau chief for the National Law Review Journal. *11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. $40 (advance tickets sold out, limited number available at the door only). 971–6474.*

U-M Baseball vs. Coastal Carolina. *May 8 & 9.* The May schedule also includes a 4-game series (with a Sat. doubleheader) vs. **Nebraska** (May 17 & 18, 6 p.m., & May 19, 1 p.m.). *7 p.m. (May 8) & 6 p.m. (May 9), Ray Fisher Stadium. $5 (youths age 12 & under, $3; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

"Hawk Hike": Leslie Science & Nature Center Fundraiser. All invited to take a hike while watching the LSNC resident red-tail hawk demonstrate flying techniques with its handler. *7–8 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $25. Preregistration required. 997–1553.*

★**Food Talks: People's Food Co-op.** *May 8, 10, 24, & 31.* Talks by local experts. *May 8:* Raw food enthusiast Ellen Livingston on **"The Raw Fooder's Garden."** *May 10:* PFC head baker Keegan Rodgers on **"The Baker's Pantry."** *May 24:* Holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt on **"Introducing Kids to Foraging."** *May 31 ($10; co-op members, $5):* Brittany Massey gives **"An Introduction to Home-Brewed Kombucha."** *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free (except as noted). Preregistration required at the co-op, at peoplesfood.coop, or by phone. 994–4589.*

★**"The Hunger Games": Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group (U-M English Department).** All age 21 & over invited to discuss Suzanne Collins's wildly popular young adult dystopian novel set in a post-apocalyptic future in which child gladiators are forced to kill each other in a televised competition. *7–9 p.m., 3184 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**Dale Fisher: Nicola's Books.** This local aerial photographer discusses his newest book of photos, ***Ann Arbor: Visions of the Eagle III.*** Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Mark Rothko and *Red*": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M art history grad student Grant Mandarino discusses the abstract expressionist painter and the play inspired by his life currently at the Performance Network (see 3 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Growing Hope": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Talk by Growing Hope volunteerism manager Arika Lycan. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 769–1052.*

★**"What's Bugging Your Rose Garden?": Huron Valley Rose Society.** Club members discuss soil problems, diseases, and pests, and offer solutions. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. 277–0112.*

★**"Imagining the Forest: Narratives of Michigan and the Upper Midwest": Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss U-M English professor emeritus John Knott's book that delineates 2 competing metaphors that have been used to understand forests in American culture: a wilderness in need of subjugation and a temple worthy of reverence and protection. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

Measure for Measure. Pioneer High School vocal music director Steve Lorenz conducts this lively 90-member local men's chorus, joined by the **Azusa Pacific University Men's Chorale,** in an eclectic program TBA. *8 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 120 S. State. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $12) in advance and at the door. 649–7664.*

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. *May 8, 9, 11–13, 18–20, & 25–27.* Keith Paul Medelis directs this local company in Jason Sebacher's adaptation of Shakespeare's visionary romance that turns attention away from Prospero to focus on the isolation and enslavement of some of the play's lesser characters. Cast: Luna Alexander, Jane Bruce, Dan Tracy, Andrew Whipple. *8 p.m., Mix Performance Space, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. May 8 & 9 previews are pay-what-you-can. Regular admission is $15 (students & seniors, $10) by reservation at tickets@thenewtheatreproject.org and at the door. 645–9776.*

9 WEDNESDAY

★**"Visions 2012 Vendor Fair: What's New in Technology and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired": Ann Arbor District Library.** Displays and demos, by a variety of vendors from around the state, of electronic readers, magnifiers, support services for the blind, Braille devices, library services, CCTVs, leader dogs, transportation services, and more. Also, talks on related issues. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 Huron River Dr. Free. 327–4555.*

"A Great Library Easily Begets Affection: The William L. Clements Library": Ann Arbor City Club. Talk by U-M Clements Library director Kevin Graffagnino. The program begins with lunch. *11:30 a.m., AACC, 1830 Washtenaw. $20. Reservations required. 662–3279.*

★**Laila Ali: U-M SHARP Center for Women and Girls.** Talk by this women's boxing champion, who is Muhammad Ali's daughter. Part of the **"Title IX at 40"** conference. *5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764-9537.*

"17th Annual Dining for Dollars": HIV/AIDS Resource Center Fundraiser. Dinner, a silent auction, and raffles. *6–9 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Tickets $125 per person ($100 per person for groups of 4 or more) in advance at hivaidsresource.org or by phone. 572–9355.*

Native Plant Exchange and Sale: Wild Ones. All invited to bring in plants to swap with other local gardeners. Also, sale of native plants. Native Plant Nursery staffers are on hand to offer advice and answer questions. *6 p.m., Native Plant Nursery, 3052 Nordman (entrance is on Butternut, just off Nordman, south off Packard just west of Platt). Free admission. 604–4674.*

★**Washtenaw Chapter Learning Disabilities Association of Michigan.** *May 9 & 16.* Panel discussions on dyslexia. *May 9:* **"Warning Signs, Testing, and Diagnoses of Dyslexia,"** with neuropsychologist Roger Lauer, language learning specialist Kristen Chapman, and U-M Center for the Development of Language and Literacy associate director Joanne Marttila Pierson. *May 16:* **"Dyslexia Interventions: Three Perspectives,"** with Lindamood-Bell Learning Center director Joel Cheney, Emerson School learning specialists Cindy Annchild and Nancy Laitner, and former Ann Arbor Public Schools teacher consultant and Project Read trainer Donna Davison. *7–9 p.m., Washtenaw Intermediate School District, 1819 S. Wagner Rd. Free, but reservations required via email re "LDA Program" to madelonp@sbcglobal.net. 302–1110.*

★**"Smart Meters, Dirty Electricity, and Your Health": Citizen Heroes Against Smart Meters.** Talk by Nutritional Healing Center chiropractor Darren Schmidt. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 277–0098.*

★**"Pests and Pathogens in Beekeeping": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** Club members discuss integrated pest management (IPM) practices that help reduce the negative impact of pests and pathogens on bee colonies. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. rimendel@sbcglobal.net, 660–8621.*

★**Health Talks: Nutritional Healing Center.** *May 9 & 31.* Talks by NHC chiropractors. *May 9:* Shannon Roznay on **"Detoxify for a Healthier You."** *May 31:* Amanda Childress on **"Parasites in You!"** *7–8 p.m., NHC, 3610 W. Liberty. Free. 302–7575.*

★**Fiction Book Club: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The Sense of an Ending,*** Julian Barnes' novel about a middle-aged man's reassessment of the affections and loyalties of his youth. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Rob Stone: Nicola's Books.** This local fiction writer reads from ***The Tower at Petite Vigne: A Novel of Occupied France,*** his debut novel about a small French village pulled into WWII when a German construction crew arrives to build a flak battery. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** EMU communications professor **Mary Ann Watson** leads a discussion of her 1990 book ***The Expanding Vista: American Television in the Kennedy Years.*** *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369–2499.*

★**Jonathan Ovalle Quartet: UMMA Jazz Series.** U-M percussion professor Ovalle leads his high-energy jazz ensemble in Afro-Cuban jazz as

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

The Moth StorySLAM

Staving off zombies

If you're eager to hear or share a compelling story, the monthly Ann Arbor Moth StorySLAM at the Circus bar invites you to participate in an evening of "True Stories Told Live," the motto of the NYC-based nonprofit behind the now nationwide series. The event's popularity, both here and elsewhere, suggests it's more than just a competition or, in our case, a thing to do on a Tuesday night. These genuine, everyday stories are vital and necessary because they represent, according to local StorySLAM host Steve Amick, a "last bastion" against pop culture's unending barrage of zombies and vampires. So, all those fatigued from staving off the undead, take heart: if storytelling's a sort of cultural fortress, then ours is a community skillfully and wittily defended by a diverse group of raconteurs.

The StorySLAM takes place in a lighthearted and casual atmosphere (created in part by Circus Bar's big-top decorations) and is governed by a few loose ground rules. All stories must be real, not fiction, and related to the given theme. Also, every story must be, well, a story. "Something has to happen," Amick explains; there must be a conflict and resolution. These guidelines are enforced by an amiable, if not tipsy, group of audience members serving as judges, who are allowed to deduct points from a storyteller's top score of 10 for any violations. In the case of one recent story that seemed more fantasy than reality, though, the judges meted out only a soft penalty. Indeed, the competition seems to be less about winning than it is about encouraging folks to share interesting bits of their lives.

If you've attended a live StorySLAM or listened to the show on public radio, you've heard a range of Moth stories and know that each is unique in tone, content, and delivery. This kind of storytelling is a genre with fuzzy boundaries, existing somewhere between dinner-table conversation and parable and frequently claiming the stand-up comic's territory of a well-delivered joke.

It's difficult to say exactly what makes a winning story, beyond some inscrutable combination of construction, the storyteller's personality, and other circumstances, such as when during the evening a storyteller is picked to share her story. Of two recent StorySLAM winners, one humorously recounted a series of jobs she held that lacked integrity, including one under a "crazy drunk" boss who loudly accosted Michael Dell, of Dell Inc., at a formal gala. Another month's winner told comically how he spectacularly botched a swimming race and nearly drowned. Not all the stories are funny, though, nor need be. Part of the evening's fun and surprise arises from the variety of its offerings.

The theme of the May 15 StorySLAM is "decadence."

—Stephanie Douglass

well as contemporary straight-ahead originals. Tonight the band also performs a tribute to the late pianist-composer Clare Fischer. Members include saxophonist-clarinetist Andrew Bishop, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and bassist Pat Prouty. *8 p.m., UMMA Forum, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

10 THURSDAY

★**"When Experts Disagree: The Art of Medical Decision Making": U-M Center for Bioethics 2nd Annual Bishop Lecture.** Talk by Harvard Medical School professors Jerome Groopman and Pamela Hartzband, coauthors of the 2011 book *Your Medical Mind.* Part of the Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine Research Colloquium. *10:45 a.m., Biomedical Sciences Research Bldg., 109 Zina Pitcher. Free, but preregistration required. 615–0528.*

Ikebana International Chapter 183. Local Ohara-style ikebana expert Anne Morrison leads a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. *1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). $15 (members, $8) materials fee. (248) 685–7696.*

★**"Everest Base Camp Trek": The Himalayan Bazaar.** Screening of a travel video about Kathmandu and the Mt. Everest base camp. Also, information about upcoming trips to Nepal. *5:30 p.m., Himalayan Bazaar, 218 S. Main. Free. 997–7229.*

"Bocks & Trappists": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about more than 2 dozen bock, *doppelbocks,* and Belgian Trappist ales. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance, $30 (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

★**"FOCUS: Families of Children United in Spirit": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Regina Elkhatib and Angela Christensen, who both lost sons in auto accidents, discuss their collection of 18 stories of parents who have lost children. *7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Ann Pearlman: Nicola's Books.** This local psychotherapist reads from ***A Gift for my Sister,*** her new novel about two dissimilar sisters drawn together after experiencing personal tragedies and upheavals. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Magic Carpet Theatre: Ann Arbor District Library.** This Michigan children's theater company performs favorite children's stories, including *Where*

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the Wild Things Are, "The Fisherman and His Wife," "The Sneetches," and others. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Maria Bamford: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 10–12.* Highly regarded young comic who specializes in slapstick stories with an acerbic edge told in a deceptively soft, almost mousy voice that accentuates her rapid-fire mimicry of the characters in her stories. A frequent performer on cable and network TV, she's also been featured in several films. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $15 (Thurs.) & $18 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $17 (Thurs.) & $20 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

11 FRIDAY

★**"Senior Living Week Expo": Housing Bureau for Seniors.** The 14th annual Senior Living & Housing Awareness Week kicks off with a day of talks exploring a variety of housing issues for seniors. Also, more than 60 exhibits by senior housing and care providers. For a complete schedule of workshops (preregistration required by Apr. 27) and open houses May 11–20 at senior housing communities around the county, see med.umich.edu/seniors/events. *8:30 a.m.–3:15 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 998–9339.*

★**"Kinderconcert: Music and Motion": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, and Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra trombonist Donald Babcock lead kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult) in a program that includes storytelling and dancing to live music. Participants also learn about the instruments. Accompanist is pianist Kathryn Goodson. *9:30–10 & 10:30–11 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science and Nature Center. *May 11 & 25.* A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 accompanied by a caregiver. Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *10–11:30 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $7. 997–1553.*

Dollhouse & Miniatures Show: Three Blind Mice. *May 11 & 12.* Show and sale of dollhouses and the miniature furniture, books, plants, and accessories used to decorate them. *4–8 p.m. (May 11) & 10 a.m.–3 p.m. (May 12), Holiday Inn, 3600 Plymouth Rd. $5 (kids ages 5–15, $2). (513) 861–0704.*

★**"Very Birdy Evening": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation.** City ornithologist Dea Armstrong leads a bird identification walk through Furstenberg Nature Area. Bring binoculars, if you have them. *6–8 p.m., meet at Gallup Park Canoe Livery dock, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 794–6240.*

"Swing into Spring": Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan Fundraiser. A strolling supper and dancing to live music by veteran Detroit jazz vocalist **Marsha Gayle.** Silent and live auctions. *6–10 p.m., Barton Hills Country Club, 730 Country Club Dr. $100 in advance at womenscentersemi.org. 973–6779.*

★**Saloma Miller Furlong: Ann Arbor District Library.** This writer, who was featured in the recent PBS American Experience program *The Amish,* discusses ***Why I Left the Amish,*** her memoir about her decision to leave the Ohio Amish community in which she was raised in order to find freedom and pursue more formal education. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

"Just Desserts: One Acts, Shorts, & Skits": Community High School Ensemble Theater. *May 11 & 12.* Community High students present a series of 10-minute scenes, monologues, songs, and dances. *7 p.m., Community High School Craft Theater, 401 N. Division. (Parking available in the lot behind the school, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St.) Tickets $12 (students, $8) at showtix4u.com beginning Apr. 27 in advance and at the door. 994–2021.*

"Macbeth": St. Augustine's Homeschool Enrichment Program Campion Players. *May 11–13.* Henry Russell directs a cast of area homeschooled teens in one of Shakespeare's best-known and most influential tragedies, the bloody tale of a Scottish lord and his ambitious wife. *7 p.m., Whitmore Lake High School, 8877 Whitmore Lake Rd. $5 (family, $25) in advance via email to campionplayers@gmail.com and at the door. 239–3476.*

★**"Friday Night Live": Mark's Carts Courtyard.** See 4 Friday. Tonight: **The Breakers,** a veteran local classic rock band that plays 60s–80s covers. 7–9 p.m.

"Wuthering Heights": Young Actors Guild. *May 11–13.* Sue Roe directs young local actors in Robert Johanson's theatrical adaptation of Emily Bronte's Gothic romance. *7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $15 (kids through high school, $10) at the door only. 913–9800.*

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. With callers TBA and live music by Susie Lorand, Delaware pianist Dave Wiesler, and Philadelphia violinist Josh Burdick. For experienced English country dancers. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. (248) 288–4737.*

Matt Watroba: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). NPR/XM *Sing Out! Radio Magazine* host Watroba sings lyrical songs and poignant ballads in a sweet tenor voice, accompanying himself on guitar and punctuating his performance with sharply humorous observations. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC, Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

"Journey to the Middle East": Dave Sharp & the Secret Seven (Kerrytown Concert House). This local jazz ensemble led by bassist Sharp performs a jazz fusion program that focuses on Middle Eastern and Indian influences. With saxophonist Chris Kaercher, guitarist Dan Ripke, drummer/percussionist Eric Wilhelm, tabla player John Churchville, kanjira (frame drum) player Mahesh Ganesan, tamboura player Atmaram Chaitanya, and violinist Prashanth Gururaja. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Breakin' Curfew": University Musical Society/Neutral Zone. Popular annual variety show featuring local and area teen performers, including the Saline math rock–emo band **Bad Television,** the **Pioneer High School String Octet,** Ypsilanti singer-songwriter **Chris Terrell,** the Huron High School percussion ensemble **Mariology,** Jackson ballet dancer **Dustin Schonhard,** the Ann Arbor rock band **the Ins & Outs,** Ann Arbor singer-songwriter **Kerry Fingerle,** the West Bloomfield Klezmer ensemble **Kids Klez,** the Holland hip-hop duo **Sike Yo Mind,** the Skyline High School *a cappella* ensemble **Skyline Blues,** the Chelsea folk-pop band **Lottie & the Manatee,** the **Nick Masters Quintet** jazz ensemble, the Ann Arbor hip-hop group **K.O.K.** with rapper **Delegate,** the Milan alternative metal band **Peace Be Still,** Skyline High School violinist **Carmen Flesher,** Pioneer Theatre Guild student **Hank Miller** backed by the **PHS Big Band,** and others. *8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $18 at the Michigan League Box Office, the Neutral Zone, and ums.org. Students, $10 in advance at the Neutral Zone & $12 at the door. 764–2538.*

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Maria Bamford: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 10 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society.** All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. *10 p.m.–midnight, 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764–3440.*

12 SATURDAY

★**Annual International Migratory Bird Count: Washtenaw Audubon Society.** All invited—from novices to experienced birders—to help take a census of birds in Washtenaw County. Part of a 24-hour worldwide snapshot of populations of resident and migrant birds. Similar in structure to the WAS Christmas Bird Count: groups of volunteers are assigned specific areas to count. Feeder watchers also invited. *All day. Free. To volunteer or for information, call Roger Wykes at 769–6482.*

Bird Hike: Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Led by Hudson Mills naturalists Jennifer Hollenbeck and Raejean Uehline. Bring binoculars and a field guide. *7:30 a.m., park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $3. Preregistration required. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

★**"Spring Round-Up Horse Show": 4-H.** Club members and other area riders demonstrate horsemanship, equitation, pleasure riding, and more. Concessions. *8 a.m.–about 7 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 997–1678.*

2nd Annual Tour of Washtenaw: Anthem Sports/Stan Notubes Great American Cycling Series. Several bike races—including 85-mile & 62-mile pro races, a 55-mile women's pro race, and 62-mile races for men's masters, juniors, and category 5 cyclists. *9 a.m.–5 p.m. (check-in begins at 8 a.m.), Chelsea High School, 740 N. Freer, Chelsea. $65 (85-mile race), $25 (juniors), & $55 (all other races) by Apr. 30; additional $15 after May 1–May 11; additional $25 on race day (if available). Preregistration recommended at bikereg.com. Racing license required. info@anthemsports.us.*

★**"4th Annual Touch a Truck": Washtenaw Success by 6/Washtenaw Great Start Parent Coalition.** All kids invited to view and touch trucks, including a fire engine, a cement mixer, a school bus, a recycling truck, a mail truck, and more. Also, information booths on early childhood programs. *9 a.m.–noon, Briarwood parking lot. Free. 994–8100, ext. 2178.*

37th Annual Allbreed Cat Show: Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers. Hundreds of beautiful cats, ranging from local house pets to exotic and rare purebreds representing more than 25 breeds, compete for awards or regional and national points—the kitten competition is particularly adorable. Also, cat stuff for sale. *9 a.m.–6 p.m., U-M Sports Coliseum, Hill at Fifth Ave. Spectators $6 (students & seniors, $4) at the door. 434–8588.*

Plant Sales: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens Fundraiser. *May 12, 13, 19, & 20.* Two weekend plant sales, including a **"Mother's Day Weekend Sale"** (May 12 & 13) with container plants and hanging baskets and an **"Heirloom & Water-Wise Spring Plant Sale"** (May 19 & 20) with heirloom herbs and vegetables and perennials that adapt well to drier summers. *10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission. 647–7600.*

Plant Sale: American Rhododendron Society. Sale of rhododendrons. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission. 647–7600.*

"Down and Dirty: Kids' Composting": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens Little Green Thumbs Program. All kids (accompanied by a parent) invited to learn about compost and to decorate a countertop compost bin to take home. *10 a.m.–noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. $5 per child (includes materials). Preregistration requested. 647–7600.*

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to hear stories about **frogs.** *10–11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $2 per person. 997–1533.*

Children of the Earth Club: Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids in grades 2 & above invited to join local singer-songwriter and environmental educator Joe Reilly in nature songs and environmentally themed games and outdoor activities. *10 a.m.–noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $8 per child in advance, $10 per child at the door. 997–1533.*

★**10th Annual Physics Olympiad: U-M Physics Department.** Area high school teams battle in this fun, creative competition that involves a variety of physics contests, such as catapulting water balloons and making bridges out of pasta. *10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Randall (450 Church) & Dennison (500 Church). Free. 936–0659, 647–9031.*

★**"Make a Mother's Day Card": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids from preschoolers to 5th graders invited to make a Mother's Day card. Supplies provided. *11 a.m.–noon, AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Nichols Arboretum Spring Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Club members lead a 3-mile hike through the Arb. Bring water. *11:30 a.m., meet at Mitchell Field (far east parking lot). Free. 677–0823.*

★**"World Fair Trade Day—World Treasures": Washtenaw Whole Foods Market.** Whole Foods staffer MaryAnn Nisely demonstrates how to make a soothing skin masque. Also, information about fair-trade products and a gift bag. *1–2 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free, but preregistration required. 975–4500.*

★**"Geek Academy: Scratch Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** All Hands Active members show adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to use Scratch, a programming language that makes it easy to create your own interactive stories, animations, games, music, and art and share your creations on the web. Held in anticipation of the Scratch Day contest (see 19 Saturday listing). *1–5 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. Arrive early; space limited. 327–8301.*

★**"A Woodland Hide-Away": Ann Arbor District Library.** Little Gems Miniature Club members show adults and youth in grades 4 & up how to make a woodland house with furnishings out of bark, acorn caps, and other woodland materials. *1–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Caitlin Horrocks: Ann Arbor District Library.**

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This widely published Grand Rapids–based short story writer, author of the darkly comic collection *This Is Not Your City,* discusses the art of writing and announces the winners of the annual **AADL teen short story contest**—which Horrocks herself won in 1997. *1:30–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★Cultural Show: Children's Russian Club of Ann Arbor. Local Russian children present (in Russian) their original dramatizations of some of Anton Chekhov's short stories. English synopses provided. *3:30 p.m., WCC Liberal Arts and Sciences Bldg. Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 353–0088.*

Youth Orchestra Concert: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. The AASPA **Junior String Orchestra** performs Edmund Siennicki's *Frog in a Tree,* Elliot Del Borgo's *Sonata Vivant,* C.B. Kreichbaum's *La Boca Grande,* and Weber's *Hunter's Chorus.* The AASPA **Youth Symphony Orchestra** performs Richard Meyer's *Millennium,* "Jupiter" from Holst's *The Planets,* Haydn's Piano Concerto no. 7 with soloist (and AASPA piano teacher) **Amy I-Lin Cheng,** Bruno Reibold's arrangement of "The Great Gate of Kiev" from Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition,* and Douglas Wagner's arrangement of a selection from H. Zimmer and J.N. Howard's *The Dark Knight.* The AASPA's Sterling String Orchestra appears under the direction of Timario Wilkins. Preceded at 2 p.m. by a **"20th Anniversary Gala"** ($125) with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and performances by AASPA jazz percussion teacher **Jesse Kramer** and Detroit Symphony Orchestra violinist **Sheryl Hwangbo.** *3:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. $10 (students & kids, $5). 213–2000.*

"Paint the Town": Ann Arbor Art Center Annual Fundraiser. This ritzy gala usually draws more than 600 people and features live and silent auctions, tours of the Art Center, artist demos, hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and dancing under a big outdoor tent (in the parking lot behind the Art Center) to live music by the 15-piece swing band **Rhythm Society Orchestra.** Attire is "urban chic." Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a **patron reception** ($200 includes "Paint the Town" ticket) with food prepared by Vinology chef Jim Leonardo. *6–10 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Tickets $100 in advance only at annarborartcenter.org/reg/tickets.php, or by calling 994–8004, ext. 120.*

"Ann Arbor Scottish Ball": Tartan and Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Catered dinner and Scottish dancing to live music by a trio of local fiddler Susie Lorand, Delaware pianist Dave Wiesler, and Philadelphia violinist Josh Burdick. *6 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $50. Reservations required. 769–1052.*

"Frog Fest": Leslie Science & Nature Center. Family-oriented program includes practice making frog calls followed by a walk to the pond to listen for frogs and toads. Also, games and other activities to discover more about frogs, toads, and salamanders. *7–9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 (family, $21) in advance, $8 (family, $30) at the door. 997–1553.*

Michael Feinstein Great American Songbook Competition: Kerrytown Concert House. Talented regional high school vocalists perform songs from Broadway and Hollywood musicals and the Tin Pan Alley era in an effort to win one of 10 spots in a national competition to sing in NYC with the renowned singer-pianist Michael Feinstein. *7 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Just Desserts: One Acts, Shorts, & Skits": Community High School Ensemble Theater. See 11 Friday. 7 pm.

"Macbeth": St. Augustine's Homeschool Enrichment Program Campion Players. See 11 Friday. 7 p.m.

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Balkan and Israeli dancing to live music by the Ethnic Connection. *7:30–10:30 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $10 (students, $5). 995–0011.*

"Wuthering Heights": Young Actors Guild. See 11 Friday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a beginner lesson. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $10 (students, $5). 408–1829.*

Shekinah E & Friends: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. An eclectic mix of musical styles by local vocalist Shekinah Errington with local musicians TBA. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 ($15 for 2). 665–0409.*

★"Sing Boys! Sing On": Boychoir of Ann Arbor 25th Anniversary Reunion Concert. Boychoir founder Tom Strode directs the performing choir (ages 9–14) in a program featuring favorites from its 25-year history, including Bernstein's "Gloria Tibi," excerpts from Fauré's Requiem, Stanford's "Beati quorum via," Bob Chilcott's moving "The Singing Heart," Z. Randall Stroope's "Omnia Sol," and the premiere of a new work by award-winning composer Colin Tucker, a Boychoir alumnus. The performing choir is joined by an alumni choir for Biebi's "Ave Maria" and Edvard Grieg's rousing "Brothers, Sing On." The program also includes vocal, jazz, poetry, and dance performances by accomplished Boychoir alumni. *8 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes. Free; donations accepted. 663–5377.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Maria Bamford: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 10 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★University Lowbrow Astronomers. *May 12 & 19.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through Peach Mountain Observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope and other instruments. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

13 SUNDAY (MOTHER'S DAY)

★"Hudson Mills Metropark": Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS member Karen Markey leads a hike to look for a variety of birds usually found in the park, including cuckoos, ruby-throated hummingbirds, woodpeckers, vireos, flycatchers, thrushes, warblers, tanagers, and more. Bring a beverage; insect repellent recommended. *7:30 a.m., meet at the flagpole in front of the Hudson Mills Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 994–3569.*

"30th Annual For Women Only 5K Run and Fitness Walk": Ann Arbor Track Club. Women and girls of all ages are invited to participate in a USATF/RRTC-certified 5-km run or fitness walk along a flat course on the campus of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Cash awards to overall, master, and grand master winners and awards for top 3 runners in 15 & under, 16–19, and subsequent 5-year age divisions. A portion of the proceeds donated to Girls on the Run of Southeast Michigan. *9 a.m. (registration begins at 7:30 a.m.), St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Ellen Thompson Women's Health Center, 5301 Huron River Dr. Entry fee: $25 (age 15 & under, $20) before May 1 & $35 (age 15 & under, $30) after May 1 at aatrackclub.org or by mail (mail-in forms available by emailing fwo@aatrackclub.com), $40 (age 15 & under, $35) day of race. 663–5680.*

"Ready Set Fly": Champions For Charity. 5-km and 1-mile runs to benefit U-M Project Healthy Schools. Shoes for overall female and male winner and awards to top 5 finishers in 5-year age groups. *9 a.m. (5-km) & 10:30 a.m. (1-mile), Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. $24 in advance & $29 day of race for 5-km; $12 in advance & $15 day of race for 1-mile. Advance registration available at readysetfly5k.com. 213–1033.*

★"Building Bridges": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Retired Montessori teacher Winifred Wylie presents this DVD panel discussion featuring the Dalai Lama, a Muslim, a Jew, and a Christian. *10 a.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971–8638.*

"Mother's Day Tea": TeaHaus. A full English tea with finger sandwiches, scones, and dessert. *10 a.m. and 1 & 4 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. $28. Reservations required by phone or email. lisa@teahaus-annarbor.com, 622–0460.*

May Interpretive Nature Programs: Hudson Mills Metropark. Programs presented by Hudson Mills naturalists Jennifer Hollenbeck and Raejean Uehline. *May 13 (1 p.m.):* **"Mother's Day Wildflower Walk."** A hike to look for spring wildflowers. *May 19 (8 a.m.):* **"Birding by Ear."** A hike to listen for and learn to identify birds by their songs. *May 26 (7:30 a.m.):* **"Birding for Beginners."** A hike to learn to identify birds by their appearance. The program begins with an indoor talk. *Various times, park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $3. Preregistration required. Moms free for Wildflower Walk. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

★"Sugarloaf Hill Secret Hike": Huron Valley Si-

erra Club. Local outdoorsman Barry Lonik leads a 5-mile hike through mature woods and wetlands with views of 2 lakes. *1–4 p.m., meet at the picnic table in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse (2501 Jackson Rd.) to carpool. Free. 477–5715.*

★"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. First Steps Washtenaw instructor Monica Higman leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a program of music and movement. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

"Tea with the Fairies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea, petits fours, and cookies to kids and their families. Also, fairy stories and readings. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. *1 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. $11 (babies age 18 months & younger, free). Preregistration required. 665–2757.*

★"Haroon Mirza": UMMA. Docent-led tour of works by this award-winning British artist whose work incorporates moving parts, electronics, video, and sound. *2 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"Crepes": Preserving Traditions/Pittsfield Union Grange. Patrick Haggood leads a hands-on introduction to making sweet and savory crepes. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $5–$10 sliding scale (Grange members, free). Preregistration requested at eventbrite.com/org/814998331. 997–8844.*

★Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 761–1451.*

"Spring Dance": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen conducts this local volunteer ensemble in Ives' *Decoration Day,* Jerry Bilik's Symphony no. 1, Clare Grundman's *Irish Rhapsody,* John Higgens' *Trombone Rag,* Marvin Hamlisch's *A Chorus Line,* Les Hooper's *Riots of Spring,* Ginastera's *Danza Finale,* and Alexandre Guilmant's *Marceau Symphonique* with trombone soloist (and AACB scholarship competition winner) **Halley Bass.** *2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $5; kids age 12 & under, free). aaband.org.*

"All About the Trio": Kerrytown Concert House. U-M jazz pianist **Ellen Rowe** leads her trio in a Mother's Day program of works by jazz legends Mary Lou Williams and Marian McPartland. With bassist Paul Keller and drummer Pete Siers. *2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Wuthering Heights": Young Actors Guild. See 11 Friday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

Mother's Day Concert: Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival. Soprano **Martha Guth** and acclaimed local pianist **Penelope Crawford** perform songs by Schubert about women, including song settings of selections from *Faust, Wilhelm Meister,* and *The Lady of the Lake.* Crawford performs on an 1835 fortepiano. Guth and Crawford are working on recordings of these songs for the international recording label Musica Omnia. *3 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Freewill offering. Ypsipipes.org.*

"Macbeth": St. Augustine's Homeschool Enrichment Program Campion Players. See 11 Friday. 3 p.m.

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 6 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

14 MONDAY

★"Shade Gardens and Spring Ephemerals": Nicola's Books Master Gardener Talk Series. Talk by members of the Master Gardener Alumni Association. *6 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★"Bamboo and Brats": Ann Arbor Trout Unlimited. All invited to try casting with bamboo fly rods. Also, free Biercamp Artisan Sausage & Jerky (Ann Arbor) brats. *6 p.m., The Painted Trout, 12075 Island Lake Rd., Dexter. Free. annarbortu.org.*

★"Volleyball in the Park": Ann Arbor Ski Club. *Every Mon., May 14–Sept. 3.* All adults age 21 & older invited to join a volleyball game. All skill levels welcome. *7 p.m.–dark, Burns Park (just east of the picnic pavilion), corner of Wells & Baldwin. Free. 429–5024.*

★"My Thoughts and Design Considerations": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. Talk by Carol Shinn, a Colorado embroiderer known for her photorealistic work. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665–0703.*

★"Michigan and the Civil War: A Great and Bloody Sacrifice": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee chair **John Dempsey** discusses his new book. Journalist Jack Lessenberry says, "Dempsey's thesis that Michigan was in the thick of the war is admirably proven by his book—as is his assertion that we know far too little about some of the epic stories and characters involved." *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750–2741.*

★"A Recovery Oriented System of Care": National Alliance on Mental Illness of Washtenaw County. Washtenaw Community Health Organization Substance Abuse Treatment Services representatives discuss substance use disorder services in Washtenaw County. *7:30–9 p.m., King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

Ladies Book Club: Jewish Community Center. All women ages 20–39 invited to discuss ***Following Polly,*** Karen Bergreen's novel about a woman accused of murdering a woman she had envied. *8 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

15 TUESDAY

"Tuscan Countryside Supper": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young is joined by **Peggy Markel,** a renowned culinary adventurer who specializes in the cultures of the Mediterranean and North Africa, to host a meal featuring traditional Tuscan specialties. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $60 (food), additional $30 for wine pairings. Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

★Health Talks: Washtenaw Whole Foods Market. *May 15 & 21.* Talks by local experts. *May 15:* Holistic health practitioner Cindy Klement discusses **"Emerging Research on the Safety of Soy."** *May 21:* Nutrition expert Kerry Cradit on **"Better Eating for Better Health."** *7–8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free, but preregistration required. 975–4500.*

★"Cycle Vacations: Learn How to Take an Entire Vacation by Bike": Ann Arbor District Library. Presentation by Bivouac Adventure Travel staff. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★Aimee Carter: Nicola's Books. This Michigan young adult writer discusses ***Goddess Interrupted***—the sequel to her YA novel *The Goddess Test*—about Kate Winters, the future Queen of the Underworld who must rescue her husband-to-be after he's abducted by the Titans. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★"The BlueGreen Alliance: Jobs for the Future": Huron Valley Sierra Club. BlueGreen Alliance regional program manager Sue Browne discusses Jobs21!, a campaign to get the president and Congress to promote the creation of clean energy jobs. *7:30–9 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 647–7600.*

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3–5 minute story on the monthly theme. May theme: **"Decadence."** The 3 judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. *7:30–9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. $5. 764–5118.*

16 WEDNESDAY

★Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 50 & over invited to join Liz Gleich to discuss a book TBA at a2gov.org/senior. *12:30–1:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

A2SO Brass Quintet: Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights Series. This Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra ensemble performs a program TBA. All seniors invited. Preceded at 1 p.m. by refreshments & socializing. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $8. 971–0990.*

★Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center. All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar

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interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. *7–9:30 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss Ruth Cowen's ***Relish: The Extraordinary Life of Alexis Soyer, Victorian Celebrity Chef.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"Superbirders of Southeast Michigan": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by club members Andy Dettling and Jacco Gelderloos about their year of birding on foot and bicycle. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

17 THURSDAY

★**28th Annual Ann Arbor Springtime Invitational Figure Skating Championship: Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club.** *May 17–20.* More than 800 skaters ages 6 to adult compete in solo, pairs, and ice dancing categories in this USFSA-sanctioned competition. Full schedule available at annarborfsc.com. *9 a.m.–10 p.m. (May 17), 8 a.m.–10:30 p.m. (May 18), 8 a.m.–10 p.m. (May 19), & 8 a.m.–3 p.m. (May 20), Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 213–6768.*

★**"A Different Perspective: A Loyalist's View": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by EMU nutrition professor emerita Elaine Found. *1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.*

★**Annual Plant Exchange: International Neighbors.** All area women encouraged to bring a house or garden plant to exchange. Also, information on summer activities available in the Ann Arbor area. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *1–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995–1645.*

★**"The Haymarket Conspiracy: Transnational Anarchism in the Gilded Age": U-M Library.** Talk by Bowling Green State University ethnic studies professor Timothy Messer-Kruse, author of *The Haymarket Trial: Terrorism and Justice in the Gilded Age* and the forthcoming *The Haymarket Conspiracy: Transatlantic Anarchist Networks. 5:30–7 p.m., U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery (Room 100), enter from the Diag. Free. 615–5783.*

Leonardo LoCascio Wine Tasting: Vinology. Strolling tastings of Italian wines, introduced by Winebow Imports chairman and Italian wine expert LoCascio. *6–8 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main. $30 (plus tax & tip). Reservations required. 222–9841.*

★**"Deepening Empathy: An Introduction to Compassionate Communication": People's Food Co-op.** Angela Watrous discusses Marshall Rosenberg's *Nonviolent Communication* and offers practical ways to recognize and respond to other people's feelings. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op, at peoplesfood.coop, or by phone. 994–4589.*

★**"Art and Antique Hunting": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by art consultant Yen Azzaro, co-owner of the local art & design firm Chin-Azzaro. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**John Sandford: Nicola's Books.** This Pulitzer Prize–winning Minnesota fiction writer reads from ***Stolen Prey,*** the 22nd novel in his Prey series. It's about detective Lucas Davenport's investigation of a wealthy suburban family's grisly murder. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. *Every Thurs.–Sun., May 17–June 10.* This Dexter-based professional company presents Dan Goggin's wacky musical about a convent in crisis. A cadre of bingo-playing nuns returns to the convent to find that 52 of their sisters have been killed by tainted soup. After burying only 48, the sisters run out of money and decide to whip up a talent show to raise cash and finish the job. Hidden talent emerges as the nuns show off some soft shoe, storytelling, and singing of such songs as "Just a Coupl'a Sisters," "Holier than Thou," "So You Want to Be a Nun," and others. Cast: Barbara Scanlon, Amy Smidebush, Sue Booth, Madison Deadman, and Mary Rumman. *7 p.m., Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. $18 on Thurs., $32 (members & seniors, $29; groups of 10 or more, $26) on Fri. & Sat. eve., & $28 (members & seniors, $25; groups of 10 or more, $22) for matinees. Tickets available at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268–6200.*

★**"How Bacteria in Colonies Can Survive by Killing Siblings and Reversibly Changing Shapes": U-M Physics Department 12th Experimental Chaos and Complexity Conference.** Talk by University of Texas Center for Nonlinear Dynamics director Harry Swinney, a chaos theory pioneer known for his early experiments with Haverford College physics professor Jerry Gollub on the onset of turbulence in fluid flow that provided the first experimental demonstration of deterministic chaos. *7:30 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. Free. Preregistration required at ecc12.physics.lsa.umich.edu/public/ . 214–6430.*

★**"The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity": U-M Ford Presidential Library.** *Time* executive editor **Michael Duffy** discusses his new book that reveals the secret history of the private relationships among the last 13 U.S. presidents, including their backroom deals, rescue missions, secret alliances, and bitter rivalries. Signing & reception follow. *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205–0555.*

★**Michigan Archaeological Society.** U-M archaeology grad student Geoff Emberling presents the 2nd part of his lecture (begun last October) on his recent archaeological dig in northern Sudan that uncovered ancient gold-working sites along the Nile. *7:30 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. (248) 437–4183.*

The Marcus & Joan Belgrave Jazz Ensemble: Music Under the Arch. Jazz and blues by the husband-and-wife duo of celebrated Detroit trumpeter Marcus and veteran church-trained Detroit jazz vocalist Joan. Opening act is the Ann Arbor pop-folk quintet **Dan Kim & the Blueberry Incident.** *7:30 p.m., Stone Arch Arts & Events, 117 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Tickets $15 & $20 (students, $10) in advance at musicunderthearch.com & by phone, and (if available) at the door. 316–2118.*

"The Phantom Tollbooth": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theater. *May 17–20.* Jenny Anne Koppera directs young local actors in Susan Nanus's stage adaptation of Norton Juster's beloved children's book. Filled with puns and wordplay and a generous sense of the absurd, it's the story of a boy who travels to a strange land and undertakes to reconcile the warring kingdoms of Dictionopolis and Digitopolis, with the help of the princesses Rhyme and Reason. *7:30 p.m., WCC Liberal Arts Bldg. College Theatre, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $5 in advance at the A2CT office (322 W. Ann) & by phone, and at the door. 971–2228.*

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

18 FRIDAY

★**"Lunchtime Tour": UMMA.** Student docents give a 30-minute tour of the art museum. *12:15–12:45 p.m., meet at the UMMA information desk, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"2012 Greyhound Event of Michigan": GreytHounds of Eastern Michigan. *May 18–20.* 200 greyhound lovers and their dogs are expected to attend this festival that includes sales, auctions, and talks on greyhound topics. The festival kicks off today with early sales and games (5 p.m.) and a **"Hounds and Hospitality"** social (7 p.m.). On May 20, a dog walk (7 a.m.) precedes a blessing of the hounds (8:30 a.m.) and brunch with a talk by a speaker TBA (9 a.m., $20). *5–8 p.m. (May 18), 9 a.m.–5 p.m. (May 19), & 7–10 a.m. (May 20), Comfort Inn, 1645 Commerce Park Dr., Chelsea. $5 (kids age 12 & under, free) admission; Friday events free for those who register in advance for Saturday. Preregistration and weekend packages available at gemgreyhounds.net. (877) GEM-DOGS.*

Ice Cream Social: Pattengill & Bryant Elementary Schools. This joint ice cream social features inflatables, a cakewalk, and carnival games. Ice cream, pizza, and popcorn available. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Pattengill, 2100 Crestland Dr. off Packard south of Stadium. Free admission; nominal charge for food & games. 994–1961.*

"Candlelight Paddle": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to paddle around Gallup Pond with only candlelight and the stars to guide your way. *7–10 p.m., Gallup Park canoe livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). $18 (includes canoe or kayak rental). 794–6240.*

"Rosé Revelry": Produce Station Spring Wine Tasting. Tastings of around 30 wines, including 2010 and 2011 rosés and light red and white wines. Paired with cheeses and finger foods. *7–9 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Tickets $35 in advance at localwineevents.com/events/detail/414780. 663–7848.*

★**"Brazilian Spiritual Healing Odyssey."** John and Ginger Gajar give a slide-illustrated presentation of their recent trip to Brazil where they saw John of God, an internationally known, controversial healer who's appeared on *Oprah* and *20/20*. Also, screening of a

classical music

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Ann Arbor Cantata Singers

Feel the love

While it was well attended—seventy-some folks gathered in St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Liberty on a sunny February afternoon—the Ann Arbor Cantata Singers' concert called Serenades and Nocturnes still seemed very intimate. Partly it was the program: all love songs, nine for chorus, six for soloists. Partly it was the audience, made up mostly of friends, family, and lovers. Partly it was the size of the chorus: two tenors, six basses, and seven each of sopranos and altos. Mostly it was the Cantata Singers themselves. Whether trained or untrained, each clearly loved singing, loved the repertoire, loved each other, and loved the audience there to hear them.

One could feel the love in the warm harmonies of the Brahms choral songs that opened each half of the concert, in the blend of the passionate women and the doughty men as they embraced Brahms' romantic melodies. True, the tenors did sound a tad thin in exposed passages, but there were only two of them and they had to hold up their end against unfair odds. And true, the group's performances of madrigals by Arcadelt, Gibbons, and Wilbye did sometimes go a bit off pitch toward the ends of longer sections. But their performances of the Elgar songs that ended the first half were as beautiful as their Brahms and perhaps even more heartfelt.

And one could certainly feel the love in the solo songs. Bass Rob Northrup sang Fred Coots's "You Go to My Head" with such sincerity that one suspects he was singing for soprano Quincy Northup. Soprano Alicia Verdier-Hammonds gave her all to Douglas Moore's "Willow Song," and the program notes that she "is loving the opportunity to sing with her girlfriend, Maggie." But it was bass Tom Lloyd, a U-M pediatrics professor with four kids, who impressed most as a soloist when he turned in an ardent, impeccable, and quite droll version of Schubert's amusing "An die Leier."

What impressed most in the whole concert was the final number: Vaughan Williams' ecstatic "Serenade to Music" featured a performance to match the music. These melodies are more lush and the harmonies more sensuous than even those in the Brahms, and under conductor Warren Puffer Jones's expert direction, the Cantata Singers delivered a deeply moving performance, particularly the clarion solo work from soprano Terri Wilcox, who, the program notes, enjoys riding roller coasters with her husband.

The Cantata Singers' next concert will be a season-closing lollapalooza, Haydn's *The Creation*, which they'll perform three times in May: at the First United Methodist Church in Brighton on the 18th, at Christ Church Cranbrook on the 19th, and back in Ann Arbor on the 20th at the First Congregational Church.

If the February concert was the Singers' idea of love, I'd like to hear their notion of creation.

—James Leonard

short YouTube video. Followed by Q&A. *7–8:30 p.m. Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 665–6086.*

★**"Unstuck in Time: A Journey Through Kurt Vonnegut's Life and Novels": Barnes & Noble.** University of Detroit Mercy history professor **Gregory Sumner** discusses his critical biography of Kurt Vonnegut. Signing. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Friday Night Live": Mark's Carts Courtyard.** See 4 Friday. Tonight: **The Wingmen,** a U-M student pop-rock band. 7–9 p.m.

"The King and I": Young People's Theater. *May 18–20.* Lisa Merte directs young local actors in Rodgers and Hammerstein's popular musical about a 19th-century American schoolteacher who travels to Asia to be a tutor in the court of the king of Siam. She finds the autocratic but well-intentioned monarch caught between his culture's ancient traditions and his desire to rule a "modern" country. The show's many well-known songs include "Getting to Know You," "Hello, Young Lovers," and "Shall We Dance?" *7 p.m., Power Center, 121 Fletcher. Tickets $15 (kids age 18 & under and seniors age 65 & over, $10) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, mutotix.com, & by phone, and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

Student Productions: Pioneer High School Theater Guild. *May 18 & 19.* Pioneer High School students perform several of their original short plays. *7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Little Theater, 601 W. Stadium at Main. $7. 994–2120.*

★**"Venus Transit Study": University Lowbrow Astronomers.** Talk by Ford Amateur Astronomy Club (Dearborn) member Ed Halash. *7:30 p.m., 130 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 747–6585.*

★**Ann Arbor Kirtan.** All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

"The Phantom Tollbooth": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theater. See 17 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *An Outline of Occult Science.* Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 944–4903.*

Dave Boutette: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. "There's an honesty in his voice that's genuinely comforting; he finishes each line with an exclamation point that's confident without coming off as smug, putting him somewhere in between Alex Chilton and Elvis Costello," says allmusic.com. "Boutette's a songwriter that relieves the Midwest of its tendency to spew forth an endless sea of singer/songwriter banality, replacing its tired clichés with protagonists that are as mischievous as they are heartfelt." Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC, Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

Dobbins-Krahnke-Weed Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. This local jazz trio—drummer Sean Dobbins, pianist Tad Weed, and bassist Kurt Krahnke—is joined by local bassist **Rodney Whitaker.** Also, an informal discussion with Whitaker about his life in jazz. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Sing Yes! to Michigan": Out Loud Chorus. *May 18 & 19.* Dan Gerics directs this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends in a program of music by an eclectic mix of Michigan artists, including Verve Pipe, Bob Seger, Madonna, Del Shannon, and various Motown artists, along with classic songs about Michigan like "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo." *8 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. $13 (students, & seniors, $10) in advance at olconline.org & from Out Loud members, $16 at the door. 973–6084.*

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Danny Browning: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 18 & 19.* Young Indiana comic with a laid-back stage persona who blends sharp, fresh observational humor and improvisational commentary. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

19 SATURDAY

"Walk & Wag and Run": Huron Valley Humane Society Benefit. About 300 local dogs usually attend this fundraising 1-mile walk and dog activity and game fest. Also, a 5-km run (new this year), a raffle ($1,000 first prize), kids' activities, giveaways, and more. Food available. *8 a.m.–1 p.m., Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd. between Merritt & Bemis rds., east of Carpenter, Ypsilanti. $50 minimum donation (or pledges) plus $35 (walk) or $50 (run) registration fee. Registration required at hshv.org. 662–5585.*

Ann Arbor Antiques Market. *May 19 & 20.* Large show and sale of antiques in various styles from Americana to Art Deco. No reproductions are allowed, experts check every booth, and the items' authenticity is guaranteed. Deliveries available. Concessions. No pets. *8 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $6 (children age 12 & under accompanied by an adult, free). (937) 875–0808 (before the show), 429–3145 (day of show).*

★**5th Annual Car Show: Varsity Ford.** Classic car owners invited to display their rides. Trophies for winners in various categories; dash plaques for first 300 cars on display. All invited to cruise through the exhibit or view it on foot. Proceeds benefit U-M Mott Children's Hospital. *8 a.m.–4 p.m. (swap setup, 7 a.m.), Varsity Ford, 3480 Jackson Rd. Free admission; donations accepted. 996–2300.*

★**Herbfest: Herb Study Group.** This annual herb festival features a sale of herbs, herb info and recipes, and cooking demos and tastings (11 a.m. and 1 & 3 p.m.). *9 a.m.–3 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission. 647–7600.*

5K Run & Walk: The Kite Network. Competitive 5-km run. Awards for overall male and female winners and for top male and female finishers in 5-year age divisions. Also, noncompetitive 5-km walk and a 1-mile fun walk. Proceeds benefit the Kite Network, a peer support organization. *9 a.m. (registration begins at 7:30 a.m.), Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $35 for 5-km run & walk & $15 for 1-mile fun walk in advance at thekitenetwork5k.com and day of race. $5 vehicle entry fee. 604–1961.*

"Heart Walk and Run": American Heart Association Fundraiser. 5-km fun run (9:10 a.m.) and 1.5- and 3-mile walks (10:10 a.m.). *9:10 a.m., WCC campus, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free, but donations & pledges accepted. Preregistration available at washtenawheartwalk.org. 635–5748.*

★**"How Do We Love as Jesus Loves?": Aglow International.** Talk by club members. Refreshments. Aglow is an international Christian organization devoted to meeting people's spiritual needs. *9:30 a.m.–noon, 340 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971–4545.*

"Two Color Quilts": Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by eclectic local quilter Barb Kilbourn. Preceded at 9 a.m. by a business meeting and followed at 11 a.m. by a member show & tell. *9:45 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 (members, free). (248) 349–7322.*

"The Ann Arbor Architectural Tour." *May 19 & 20.* Michigan architectural history enthusiast Jacob Jabkiewicz leads an informative 75-minute walking tour highlighted by Burton Memorial Tower, Nickels Arcade, and the Michigan and State theaters. *10 a.m.*

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and 1 & 3 p.m. (Sat.) and 1 & 3 p.m. (Sun.), meet at the corner of E. Liberty and Maynard (across from Biggby Coffee). $12 (kids age 5 & under, free). (517) 392–5113.

★**"Butterfly Festival": U-M Natural History Museum.** A variety of family-oriented activities, including displays of live Monarch butterflies and of their life cycle and a chance to examine butterfly and moth wings through a microscope and to make yourself a pair of butterfly wings. Also, weather permitting, a visit to the museum's butterfly garden to plant new perennials. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★**"Picnic Pops": Pioneer High School.** An all-day outdoor musical bonanza of performances by local middle and high school bands and orchestras. Games, an obstacle course, and prizes. Hot dogs, pizza, and ice cream available. Rain or shine (it's under a big tent). *10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., PHS, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Free admission. 975–8626.*

★**"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA.** U-M student docents read stories related to the art on display. For kids ages 4–7 accompanied by a parent. *11 a.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"Geek Academy: Scratch Day": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to use the Scratch programming language (see 12 Saturday "Scratch Lab" listing) to make or polish up a homemade animation project to enter in a contest by 3 p.m. The program concludes with a pizza dinner and an awards ceremony. *11 a.m.–5 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"8th Annual Tour of Remodeled Homes": National Association of the Remodeling Industry. *May 19 & 20.* Tour of area homes with remodeled kitchens, baths, and more. *Time TBA, various locations. Tickets TBA. Maps available at narisemich.org. 622–9999.*

★**"Family Day: Monsters and Myth": U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** Kids ages 5–12 (accompanied by a parent) invited to learn about mythological beasts and Greek mythology. Also, a monster scavenger hunt in the galleries and a chance to create a monster and make a Cyclops headband. *1–3 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 424 S. State. Free. 647–4167.*

"Wolverine Will": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Carla Milarch's educational theater work takes kids in grades K–6 on a whirlwind tour of Michigan history, from lumberjacks to lug nuts. Milk & cookies. *1 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (youth under age 16, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

★**Origami 101: Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and youth in grade 4 & up invited to learn and try their hand at the Japanese art of paper folding. Supplies provided. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Orchid Seminar: Great Lakes Judging Center.** *May 19 & 20 (different programs).* Two days of orchid sales and talks on orchids. Also, orchid judging at U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1 p.m. on May 19 only, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd.). Also, a buffet dinner (4:45 p.m., $20). *2–10 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free, but preregistration requested at www.gljc.org.*

★**U-M Men's Rugby.** The U-M city team (which includes townies as well as U-M grad students, faculty, and staff) plays a Midwest Rugby Union rival TBA. *2:30 p.m., Riverside Park, 1009 Canal St. (off Wall St.). Free. 417–4534.*

★**Voice Recital: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** Students of Carla Margolis perform solo vocal, musical theater, and choir works TBA. *3 p.m., AASPA, 637 S. Main. Free. 213–2000.*

★**"Buddha's Birthday Celebration": Zen Buddhist Temple.** *May 19 & 20 (different programs).* The most festive occasion of the Buddhist year. *May 19:* Panel discussion on **"Mindfulness in the Workplace"** (3:30 p.m.), with Zen Buddhist Temple members Frank Anderson, Joya D'Cruz, and Jacki Dilley. The **9th Annual Buddha's Evening Celebration** (6 p.m.) includes a buffet with vegetarian hors d'oeuvres, entrees, and dessert, followed by a program of music and other entertainment TBA. *May 20:* The program begins at 10 a.m. with a dharma talk and the traditional **"Bathing of Baby Buddha"** with sweet tea. Also at 3 p.m., resident priest Haju Murray presents a lecture-demo on **"An Introduction to Meditation"** ($5 suggested donation) and at 7:30 p.m., **chanting and lighting of traditional lotus lanterns,** along with scriptural readings by representatives from other area Buddhist groups. *3:30–8:30 p.m. (May 19) & 10 a.m.–8:30 p.m. (May 20), Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. All events are free, except Evening Celebration (adults, $12; students, $6; small children, $5; families, $30). Tickets available in advance and at the door. 761–6520.*

Ann Arbor Young Contra Dancers: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Drake Meadow calls to music by the **Stout Hearted String Band.** For students and people in their 20s & 30s. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. Bring clean, flat, non-marking shoes. *4–7 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10 (members, $19; students, $5). (248) 417–7968.*

"TechTwilight 2012": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Interactive displays by local innovators, science-themed kids activities, and a chance to meet techies, scientists, and entrepreneurs. Refreshments, prizes, and goodie bags. *6–9 p.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. Tickets $25 (kids, $10; families, $60) in advance at aahom.org. 995–5439.*

"The King and I": Young People's Theater. See 18 Friday. 1 & 7 p.m.

"The Phantom Tollbooth": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theater. See 17 Thursday. 1 & 7:30 p.m.

Student Productions: Pioneer High School Theater Guild. See 18 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. Robin Warner, Peter Baker, and Mark Hillegonds call contras to live music by **Dawn's Early Light.** No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded by a lesson at 7:30 p.m. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $10 (members, $7; students, $5). 426–0241.*

"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Room. $10 (members, $5). umich.edu/~umtango.*

"I Hate, I Love": Vocal Arts Ensemble. Ben Cohen directs this local 24-voice chamber choir in Brahms' *Liebeslieder Waltzes,* Monteverdi's exquisite *Madrigals of Love and War,* and Argento's *I Hate and I Love,* a song cycle based on Catullus's poetry that ranges from adulation to bitter rejection. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance at vocalartsannarbor.org or by phone. 665–7823.*

"Sing Yes! to Michigan": Out Loud Chorus. See 18 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

Danny Browning: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 18 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

20 SUNDAY

★**"Magee Marsh Wildlife Area": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** WAS member Karen Markey leads a field trip to this Ohio state park 70 miles from Ann Arbor on the southern shore of Lake Erie to look for migrating warblers, flycatchers, sparrows, thrushes, and perhaps even some owls. Bring a lunch and something to drink; insect repellant recommended. Late afternoon return. *6 a.m., meet at the park-and-ride lot at Plymouth and US-23, to carpool. Free. 994–3569.*

★**Horse Shows: Cobblestone Farms.** Riders compete in dressage, cross-country riding, and stadium jumping. Concessions. The May show is a smaller version of the June 3 horse trials. *9 a.m.–evening, Cobblestone Farms main barn, 6301 Gregory Rd., Dexter. Free. 476–6972.*

25th Annual Michigan Vintage Volkswagen Festival: Michigan Vintage Volkswagen Club. Big display of around 400 of every sort of air-cooled VW imaginable. Also, a swap meet. Rain or shine. *9 a.m.–3 p.m., Riverside Park, Ypsilanti. $5 admission ($12 to enter a car; $2 discount if you bring a nonperishable food donation for SOS Community Services). mvvc.net.*

"New Balance Girls on the Run 5K": Girls on the Run in Southeastern Michigan. Noncompetitive 5-km run for girls ages 8–14 and parents, family members, teachers, and anyone else who wants to run with them. All finishers receive a medal. *9:45 a.m. (registration begins at 8 a.m.), EMU Rynearson Stadium, 799 Hewitt, Ypsilanti. $25 (kids dash, free) in advance by May 16 at girlsontherunsemi.org/events/GOTR-events.php; $30 day of race. 712–5640.*

"Coffee Tasting, Focus: Guatemala": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's Coffee managing partner Steve Mangigian discusses (with photo and video illustrations) and offers samples of some of the richly flavorful coffees he discovered during a recent trip to Guatemala. With pastries. *10–11:30 a.m., Zingerman's Next Door, 422 Detroit St. $35.*

663–3354.

34th Annual Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair: Ann Arbor Antiquarian Booksellers Association. One of the country's top regional antiquarian fairs, with more than 40 dealers from 8 states offering manuscripts, vintage photos and prints, antique maps, and a wide array of old, rare, curious, and fine books, including cookbooks, art books, long out-of-print children's books, first editions, early Americana, Michigan history, travel and exploration, and more. Admission charge benefits the U-M Clements Library. *11 a.m.–5 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. $5 donation. 995–1891.*

★**"Hike Humbug Marsh": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Club members lead a hike through the Detroit International Wildlife Refuge along the last untouched mile of shoreline along the Detroit River. Wear boots that can get muddy. *11:30 a.m., meet at the picnic table in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse (2501 Jackson Rd.) to carpool. Free. 665–0248.*

★**Canoe Race: Manchester Kiwanis.** All invited to join or watch this thrilling 3-mile race down the River Raisin to Mill Pond near Main St., where most spectators congregate. *Noon, Fellows Bridge launch area on Sharon Valley Rd., Manchester. Free to spectators. Cost to race TBA (registration begins at 10 a.m.). manchestermi.org.*

★**Jewish Hikers of Michigan.** All invited to join an easy hike preceding the JCC "Celebrate Israel" event. Bring a backpack, munchies, and drinks. No pets. *12:15–1 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 883–9522.*

★**"Grand Opening of Rolling Hills North": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** A ribbon-cutting ceremony, an all-ages **nature hike through Sassafras Woods** (2–3 p.m., meet near the playground), a chance to hike and/or bike on the new paved trail, and other activities to celebrate the new additions to Rolling Hills County Park. *1–4 p.m., Rolling Hills County Park, meet near the lodge, 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free (no vehicle entry fee today). 971–6337, ext. 334.*

"Comparative Cupping": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff offer taste samples of coffees from around the world using the tools and techniques of professional tasters. *1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $20. 929–6060.*

★**"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4555.*

"The Phantom Tollbooth": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theater. See 17 Thursday. 1 p.m.

★**"Immigration and Naturalization: Researching Your Ancestors' Arrival to the United States": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Talk by Plymouth District Library electronic resources librarian Kathy Petlewski. Followed by **"There Are No Dumb Questions in Genealogy,"** a Q&A with a panel of club members. *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from E. Huron River Dr.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★**"Make Your Own Custom String Doll": Ann Arbor District Library.** Craft activity for adults and teens in grade 6 & up. Supplies provided. *2–4:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Bulbophyllums": Ann Arbor Orchid Society.** Orchid photographer Nile Dusdieker discusses these orchids that are found in Southeast Asia and the South Pacific. Also, an orchid show-and-tell, orchid sales, silent auction, raffle, and a chance to grill experts about problem plants. *2–5 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–0756.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All kids, accompanied by an adult, invited for contra and square dancing with live music by David West and Donna Baird. Grange-baked cookies. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $12 per family. 769–1052.*

"The King and I": Young People's Theater. See 18 Friday. 2 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Preservation Clinic: Get Your Stuff Out of the Shoebox": U-M Library.** All invited to bring in damaged books, papers, photographs, audiovisual recordings, and sound recordings to get advice from U-M library staff on how to repair them. Also, a chance to learn how to preserve digital files and photos. *2:30–4:30 p.m., U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery (Room 100), enter from the Diag. Free. 615–5783.*

★**Washtenaw Community Concert Band.** An outdoor concert by this 70-member volunteer ensemble. Program TBA. *3 p.m., First United Methodist Church north lawn, 120 S. State. Free. 252–9221.*

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**Delia Ephron: Ann Arbor District Library.** This best-selling writer, best known for her screenplays for *You've Got Mail* (cowritten with her sister Nora Ephron) and *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants,* discusses her versatile career as a screenwriter, playwright, fiction writer, humorist, and essayist. She also talks about *The Lion Is In,* her new novel about 3 women on the lam together who take shelter in a seemingly abandoned nightclub when their car breaks down on a rural North Carolina highway. *3–4:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Peace": First Presbyterian Church.** Gerald Leckrone directs the church's **chancel choir** in a program of music and readings built around the theme of peace. Includes Randall Thompson's *Peaceable Kingdom* and works by Mendelssohn, Rene Clausen, Edgar Bainton, and Vaughn Williams, along with readings from Martin Luther King Jr., President Eisenhower, Lao Tzu, Sanderson Beck, and Henri Nouwen. *3 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466.*

★**Tuba and Piano Recital: River Raisin Ragtime Revue Fundraiser.** River Raisin Ragtime Revue director and tubaist **William Pemberton** is joined by the orchestra's pianist **Catherine McMichael** in horn concertos by Mozart and Strauss, Vaughan Williams folk songs, Donald Haddad's Suite for Tuba and Piano, and an original composition by McMichael. Pemberton also plays a solo cello work by Gabrielli. *3 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free admission, but donations accepted. (517) 423–1962.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 6 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**"You Are Not a Gadget: A Manifesto": Society of Women Engineers Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Jaron Lanier's provocative and cautionary book about the ways the Internet has changed our lives for better and for worse. *4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2913 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 572–9243.*

★**"Reminiscences of Julia": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.** Local culinary history enthusiasts **Dan and Jan Longone,** founders of the U-M Clements Library Janice Bluestein Longone Culinary Archive, give a talk in honor of Julia Child's 100th birthday. *4–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

★**Gemini: St. James Episcopal Church.** Family concert by this popular acoustic duo that has built a strong following among kids and adults throughout the Great Lakes area. Twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits offer sing-alongs, folk songs from around the world, and upbeat originals about life's simple pleasures, all performed with a boisterous sense of fun on more than a dozen instruments. *4 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church, 3279 Broad St., Dexter. Free, but food donations requested for Faith in Action. 426–8247.*

"The (Un)usual Song and Dance": Bethlehem United Church of Christ. U-M violin professor **Andrew Jennings** and BUCC organist **Gail Jennings** perform three Schubert sonatinas, a suite by Britten, Converse's *Air de Ballet,* and Bernstein's *Suite from West Side Story. 4 p.m., Bethlehem UCC 423, S. Fourth Ave. Freewill offering. 665–6149.*

★**Dexter Community Orchestra.** Anthony Elliott conducts this volunteer ensemble in Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 5. Also, Respighi's *Fountains of Rome* and a concerto TBA featuring the winner of the orchestra's annual youth concerto competition. *4 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south off Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Free. 726–0070.*

★**Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss 2 books that feature women detectives: Helene Tursten's *Detective Inspector Huss* and Alicia Gimenez-Bartlett's *Death Rites. 4:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769–2149.*

★**"Motor Vehicle Sundown": UMMA/U-M School of Music.** U-M music students and faculty perform this John Cage–inspired work by George Brecht, one of the artists who were part of the 1960s avant-garde collective Fluxus. The work is performed using motor vehicles and involves 22 timed auditory and visual effects and 22 pauses—each written on instruction cards that are randomly shuffled and used to determine the performance sequence. *5 p.m., U-M Parking Lot C–2 (south side of North University at Thayer, next to the Natural Science Bldg.). Free. 764–0594.*

"A Sister's Call": National Alliance on Mental Illness of Washtenaw County. Screening of Rebecca Schaper's documentary about a woman's journey to support her brother through his schizophrenia and

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homelessness and their family's complicated dynamics. Followed by discussion with the director. Preceded at 5 p.m. by a reception. *6 p.m., U-M Depression Center auditorium, 4250 Plymouth. $10 ($2 suggested donation for those with limited incomes). 994–6611.*

Annual Dinner: Washtenaw County Democratic Party. Dinner, followed by a talk on the 2012 national election by California congressman **Xavier Becerra,** vice chair of the Democratic House Caucus. Live music. *6 p.m., IBEW 252 union hall, 7920 westbound Jackson (west of Baker Rd.). Tickets $75 (students, $40) in advance at washtenawdems.org. 417–6879, 662–1731.*

"The Creation": Ann Arbor Cantata Singers. *See review, p. 73.* Warren Puffer Jones conducts this polished semiprofessional local ensemble in Haydn's masterful oratorio inspired by the creation story in Genesis and in Milton's *Paradise Lost.* Accompanied by an orchestra. Preceded at 6:15 p.m. by a lecture about the program. *7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Tickets $15 & $25 (students & seniors, $10; ages 18 & under, free) in advance at a2cantatasingers.org, and at the door. 996–8867.*

★**"End-of-Year Jazz Concert": Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** Performances by the 3 AASPA jazz combos: **Rat in the Banjo,** the **Legalese Quintet,** and **Two Guitars No Waiting.** *8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 213–2000.*

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

21 MONDAY

★**"New Strategies for Living with Arthritis": U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** Talk by U-M internal medicine professor Wendy Marder. *10–11:30 a.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

Cooking Demos: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *May 21, 22, & 24.* Topics include **"Baking Whole Wheat Bread"** (May 21, 6 p.m.), **"Vegetarian Cooking 101 with VegMichigan"** (May 22, 7 p.m.), and **"A Memorable Memorial Day Meal"** (May 24, 6:30 p.m.). *Various times, Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $10. Preregistration required. 997–7500.*

"Bonny Doon Wine Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young is joined by Bonny Doon Vineyard (Santa Cruz) founder Randall Grahm for a meal featuring 5 different Bonny Doon wines paired with a menu designed to highlight their different flavors. *7–10 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $85. Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

★**Embroiderers Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. *7 p.m., United Way, 2305 Platt. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues for those who join). 975–4348.*

Gardening Club: Jewish Community Center. A local gardener TBA discusses preparing your vegetable and flower gardens for spring. *7 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5. Preregistration requested. 971–0990.*

★**Nonfiction Book Club: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of Gary Chapman's ***The Five Love Languages: The Secret to Love That Lasts.*** *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Pamela Dean: Nicola's Books.** This Michigan writer reads from ***Nothing Can Bring Back the Hour,*** her coming-of-age romance novel set in the 1960s. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Rather Outspoken: My Life in the News": Ann Arbor District Library/Michigan Radio.** Former longtime *CBS Evening News* managing editor and anchor **Dan Rather** discusses his new memoir. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters.** Francine Harris, Scott Beal, and other area poets present a tribute reading to the late female poets Adrienne Rich, Wisława Szymborska, Dorothea Tanning, Lucille Clifton, and Ai. The program begins with open mike readings. *7–8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.*

Stamp Auction: Ann Arbor Stamp Club. Auction of the club's U.S. & foreign stamps, covers, and collector supplies. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761–5859.*

22 TUESDAY

★**"Is Everybody Really Equal?": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice Racial Justice Book Group.** All invited to discuss Özlem Sensoy and Robin DiAngelo's book about social justice education. *7–9 p.m., St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. Child care available with advance notice. 663–1870.*

★**"Sparky and Me: My Friendship with Sparky Anderson and the Lessons He Shared About Baseball and Life": Nicola's Books.** Former Detroit Tigers public relations director **Dan Ewald** discusses his memoir about the legendary Tigers manager. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Ara Topouzian: Ann Arbor District Library.** This internationally renowned Detroit-area Armenian American musician performs on Armenian and Middle Eastern instruments, including the *kanun* (laptop harp) and *duduk* (Armenian oboe). His repertoire includes traditional Armenian music and music from around the Middle East, along with some jazz, fusion, New Age, and blues. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

The Juanito Pascual Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. Trio led by internationally respected flamenco guitarist Pascual, a Minneapolis native whose sound blends traditional and contemporary flamenco with influences ranging from Jimi Hendrix and the Grateful Dead to Miles Davis and J.S. Bach. With percussionist **Tupac Mantilla** and acoustic bassist **Brad Barrett.** *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

23 WEDNESDAY

Ice Cream Social: Burns Park Elementary School. A butterfly tent, cakewalk, fire truck (tentative), obstacle course, giant slide, and carnival games, including a quarterback toss, slapstick hockey, quack attack, and the new balloon-popping game boom blaster. Also, performances by the local kids-music band the **Kerfuffles** and the **Tappan Middle School jazz band.** Pizza House pizza, salad, drinks, desserts, and ice cream and popsicles available. *Rain date:* May 24. *5:30–8 p.m., Burns Park Elementary, 1414 Wells. Free admission; nominal charge for food and games. 994–1919.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**MiRobotClub.** All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and discuss their current gadgets and toys. *7 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. (517) 618–9546.*

★**"Design of a Dawn Redwood Forest": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Demo by club member Kurt Smith. Followed by a raffle of the bonsai created by Smith. The program is preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. (313) 930–1305.*

★**"Preservation Activism": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by digital historian, archivist and documentary filmmaker Jason Scott, founder of the Archive Team, a collective devoted to preserving early Internet content from extinction. Scott also shows and discusses an episode from ***Get Lamp: The Text Adventure Documentary,*** his 2010 film about the creation of computer adventure games in the 80s. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The German Genius: Europe's Third Renaissance, The Second Scientific Revolution, and the Twentieth Century,*** Peter Watson's history of German culture from the death of Bach in 1750 to the rise of Hitler in 1933. *Note:* The discussion focuses on the chapters on science. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

Salem Area Historical Society. Monroe Historical Museums director John Gibney discusses **Michigan's role in the War of 1812.** *7:30 p.m., Jarvis Stone School, 7991 North Territorial at Curtis, Salem Twp. $2 (members, free). (248) 437–6651.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

24 THURSDAY

★**"Clean Energy and the 2012 Election: What's the Michigan Renewable Energy Ballot Initiative All About?": Ecology Center Annual Meeting.** Talk by 5 Lakes Energy policy consulting firm principal Douglas Jester, one of the state's leading experts on energy policy. Also, discussion of Ecology Center campaigns. *7 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. 761–3186, ext 104.*

★**"A Voyage to the Edge of the Universe": Ann Arbor District Library.** Illustrated talk by *Sky News* magazine editor **Terence Dickinson,** author of the best-selling stargazing guidebook *Night Watch* and 13

comedy hypnotist

Gary Conrad

You are getting verrry funny

Exploiting hypnotism for its comic potential is at least as old as vaudeville, and when vaudeville died, it had a good second run as a sitcom subplot in the 50s and 60s. In vaudeville and sitcoms, the audience laughed at victims made to bark like dogs, cluck like chickens, and what not; the hypnotist was the straight guy, cloaked in a shield of science, even if from one of its cheesier precincts. But what, you might well ask, is a hypnotist doing at the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase?

The club under any circumstances is an extraordinarily good entertainment deal. For little over the price of a movie ticket, you get a couple hours of live performance by seasoned stand-up comics on the national circuit, and there's no two-drink minimum like some big-city comedy venues impose.

But back to this particular comedy act—it's not what you normally see at the Showcase. Conrad doesn't look like a New York hipster. He doesn't wear jeans, leather, hip-hop accessories, cowboy boots, or any other costume device to prove he's tuned into the cynical and absurd energies of the big city night. A ruddy, middle-aged guy, he has a Willy Loman–esque affect. His rumpled suit and hardened carnival-barker delivery suggest he's not lying when he says he does 400 performances a year.

I don't believe it's my job to give away what happens on his stage. In short, he calls for volunteers, makes them do things that they would not ordinarily do, and simultaneously delivers a passable stand-up act. Louie CK he's not, but then Louie CK can't even make his own kids be nice to grandma.

What I can do, because I stuck around after Conrad's show in Ann Arbor a few years ago, is answer two questions I think most people will want to ask afterward. What does it feel like to be hypnotized? And *were* they really hypnotized, or were they shills?

Several of Conrad's subjects were also hanging around after the show. They didn't seem to be shills, unless they were also great Method actors, because they all had complete back-stories about being workmates at the Campus Inn. They remembered being hypnotized—it wasn't some sort of amnesia-producing trance—and seemed, in a dazed way, to still be processing what they had just done. Several of them spontaneously volunteered this odd detail: it had distorted their perception of time. They had spent an hour onstage, but it seemed to have passed in an instant.

I posed the shill question to Conrad. His answer: "A woman said to me the other day: 'I know you pay them.' I said, 'Okay, how much would I have to pay you to get up there? Five hundred bucks?' Now, I got ten people up there—at five hundred bucks per person? It doesn't make sense, does it?" Yep, probably easier to just use hypnosis.

Gary Conrad returns to the Comedy Showcase on May 24–26.

—Sally Mitani

other highly regarded books for beginning astronomers. Dickinson also offers tips on the easiest way to find and view planets, stars, constellations, and the northern lights and offers advice on buying a telescope. Signing. In conjunction with the new AADL telescope lending program. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

"Arsenic and Old Lace": Explorers Drama Club. *May 24–26.* James Pinard and Leanne Wade direct an ensemble of area homeschooled high school students in Joseph Kesselring's enduring screwball comedy. It's the story of a drama critic whose plans to elope (on Halloween) are interrupted when he learns that the sweet maiden aunts who raised him have made a charity project of poisoning lonely old men to put them out of their misery. While he tries to deal with the situation—and with another eccentric relative who believes he's Teddy Roosevelt—matters are further complicated by the arrival of a long-lost brother with a sinister past. *7 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. $8 (seniors age 60 & older, $8) in advance at explorersdramaclub.org and via email to explorersdrama@gmail.com, $10 at the door. (313) 618–2615.*

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★"Dance and Dine with Ann Arbor Civic Ballet." Dance demonstrations by the Civic Ballet and **A2 Tango.** Followed by a free tango lesson. Food from Frita Batidos. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Sylvia Studio of Dance, 3900 Jackson, suite 6. Free, but donations accepted. 668–8066.*

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"The Odd Couple": Emergent Arts Theatre Company. *May 24–27.* Tim Henning directs local actors in Neil Simon's vintage comedy about 2 men—one a fussy neatnik, the other a free-spirited slob—who find themselves living together after their wives throw them out. Within 2 weeks, the tension between fastidiousness and slovenliness builds to a perilous peak. Stars Jon Elliott and Steve Elliott. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $20 (seniors and students with ID, $16). 985–0875, emergentarts.com.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Gary Conrad: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 24–26. See review, p. 77.* Veteran comedy hypnotist who gets members of the audience to do funny things. The May 25 & 26 late shows are "erotic shows" featuring racier stunts. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

25 FRIDAY

★Open House And Military Memorabilia Display: VFW Graf-O'Hara Post 423. *May 25–28.* Display of the post's military museum, which houses one of the largest private collections of military memorabilia in the Midwest, including uniforms dating from WWI, medals, gear, weapons, helmets, boots, patches, and personal items. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., 3230 S. Wagner Rd. Free. 662–3972.*

★"Friday Night Live": Mark's Carts Courtyard. See 4 Friday. Tonight: **Charlie Slick,** a local Gary Numan–inspired electro-pop singer-songwriter. 7–9 p.m.

"Arsenic and Old Lace": Explorers Drama Club. See 24 Thursday. 7 p.m.

Bonnie Raitt: Ann Arbor Summer Festival. This versatile blues, rock, and pop songster was transformed, virtually overnight, from a longtime cult

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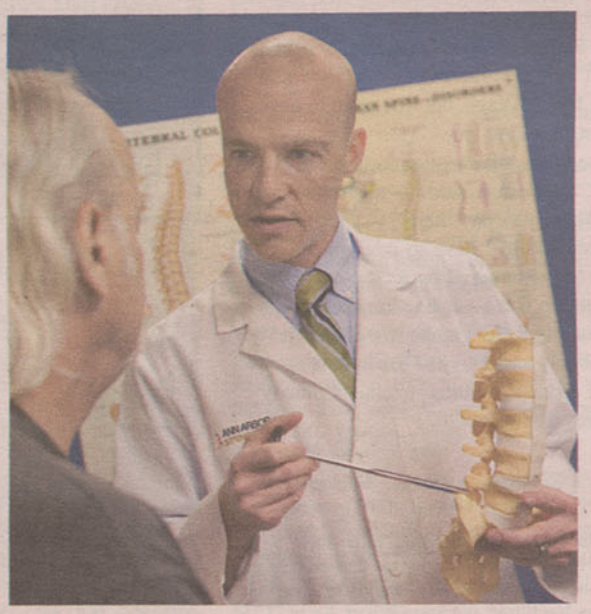
We're pleased to welcome Andrew Egger, MD to Ann Arbor Spine Center as its newest spine specialist, fellowship-trained in spine care. Dr. Egger is now accepting new patients related to back and neck pain at Ann Arbor Spine Center and the satellite locations in Brighton, Novi and Chelsea.

Dr. Egger is a native of Michigan. He earned his medical degree at Michigan State University and completed his residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Temple University Hospital-Moss Rehab in Philadelphia. During his residency, he served as Clinical Instructor at Temple University School of Medicine and Chief Resident in the Department of PM&R. Dr. Egger has completed a fellowship in Interventional Pain Management for spine. A fellowship is the highest level of medical education in the U.S. Dr. Egger is proficient in the non-surgical treatment of back and neck pain symptoms. This includes the use of lumbar and thoracic epidural steroid injections, facet joint injections, medial branch injections and electrodiagnostic testing (EMGs). Before joining Ann Arbor Spine Center, Dr. Egger had a spine practice with Performance Spine and Sports Physicians in Pennsylvania.

Within his role at Ann Arbor Spine Center, Dr. Egger is involved with the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of back and neck pain problems, including the use of EMGs and injection therapy. He specializes in helping people with back and neck pain recover from symptoms non-surgically. Dr. Egger is pleased to be back in Michigan where he grew up. He and his wife look forward to raising their family in the Ann Arbor area.

Ann Arbor Spine Center includes the expertise of



Carrie Stewart, MD, another specialist in non-surgical spine care, three neuro spine surgeons, three ortho spine surgeons, and a team of affiliated spine specialized therapists. If you would like to make an appointment, call 734-434-4110. As a community service, Ann Arbor Spine Center mails out a free 36-page Home Remedy Book for back pain. Call us and we'll send you a copy.

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heroine into a genuine pop star when her 1990 album *Nick of Time* won 3 Grammys. She's since drifted away from the spotlight, mainly because she's never compromised the traits that got her all the attention in the first place—her superb taste in ballads and bluesy rockers by contemporary composers and her subtle interpretive skills. She sings with an understated, deceptively easygoing passion, by turns gritty and gentle, raunchy and sweetly soulful. Tonight, she performs songs from *Slipstream,* a new album showcasing her clear, powerful voice and expressive slide guitar work that includes 2 covers from Dylan's celebrated 1997 CD *Time Out of Mind,* "Million Miles" and "Standing in the Doorway," as well as a reggae-influence version of Gerry Rafferty's "Right Down the Line." Opening act is **Marc Cohn,** a reclusive singer-songwriter known for his resonant baritone and his introspective lyrics. His new CD, *Listening Booth: 1970,* covers classic songs from the title year by Cat Stevens, John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Van Morrison, and others. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $35.50–$65.50 in advance at the Michigan League, a2sf.org, and by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Odd Couple": Emergent Arts Theatre Company. See 24 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Gary Conrad: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 24 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

26 SATURDAY

★34th Annual Great Lakes Special Stockdog Trials: Southeast Michigan Australian Shepherd Association. Numerous Australian shepherd dogs and other herding breeds compete to herd ducks, sheep, and cattle. *8:30 a.m.–afternoon, Imagine Farm, 10202 Hogan (east off M-52), Manchester. Free. 718–5081.*

Spring Charity Tournament: Ann Arbor Ultimate. All invited to compete in this spirited team sport played with flying discs. Names are pulled from a hat to form teams. Beginners welcome. Food. Proceeds benefit a charity TBA. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Lillie Park, Platt at Ellsworth (entrance on Platt, ½ mile south of Ellsworth). $10. a2ultimate.org.*

★Grange Junior Makers: Pittsfield Grange. Kids, accompanied by an adult, invited to work on electronics, robotics, and woodworking projects. Today's project TBA. *10 a.m.–noon, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 926–5079.*

"Camp Skills Rock!": Alpha House. All kids ages 5–14 (accompanied by an adult) invited to learn and try their hand at a variety of camping skills, including canoeing, fishing, rock climbing, pitching a tent, and more. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., p.m., Gallup Park area around the youth fishing pond (enter off Fuller Rd). $10 per child includes lunch and gear. 769–7175.*

★"4th Annual Classics at the City Club Car Show": Ann Arbor City Club. A show of classic, sporty, unusual, and rare collectible cars. Concessions. Preceded on May 24 by **"The Auto Sun Is Rising"** ($28; preregistration required by May 21), a reception (5 p.m.) and dinner (6 p.m.) with a talk by AutoHarvest cofounder David Cole. *Noon–4 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. $15 to show a car; register at annarborcityclub.org/car-show.html. 662–3279.*

★"Minecraft: Ann Arbor": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grades 6 & up invited to try the new AADL server dedicated to this computer game that involves building things with virtual blocks. *1–3 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★Pops Concert: Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra. Adam Riccinto directs this volunteer community orchestra in this popular annual Broadway tribute. Bring a blanket and lawn chair. Rain date: May 27. *2 p.m., Riverside Park Pavilion, E. Cross at N. Huron St., Ypsilanti. Free. 507–1451.*

"Southside Gelato Social": Zingerman's Creamery. With Zingerman's Creamery popsicles, ice cream sandwiches, and gelato sundaes with early spring fruits. *4–6 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $20. 929–0500.*

Scandinavian Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Scandinavian couple dances, including hambo, schottis, polska, springar, and more. No partner necessary. Bring flat shoes with smooth, hard soles. *5–7 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $5 (students, $3). (908) 721–2599.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. European, Israeli, and Middle Eastern

folk-pop

Hana Malhas

One to watch

Hana Malhas (say HEN-a) was raised in Amman, Jordan, and came to Ann Arbor to attend business school at the U-M. She graduated a few years back, and now she says she'd like to spend the rest of her life making music. Based on the evidence of her career thus far, she has a good shot at it. One to watch, indeed. One rapturous song, "Radiate," from her full-length debut album, *Shapeshift,* sounds to me like a song with national potential.

The main attraction is not her Arabic background. She does sing in Arabic occasionally, and some of the imagery ("Some day I'll ask you to grow me an olive tree") comes from that part of the world. You might even enjoy an edge in her singing that speaks to having heard Umm Kulthum and other great Arab popular singers—her voice has a great deal of texture and soul. But her music does not use Arabic modes. It's basically folk-pop, piano or guitar based. The Swell Season is a reasonable comparison.

Instead it's Malhas's songs that are getting the attention of audiences at her shows over the past year or two, in the Detroit area and as far beyond as Jordan. The majority of them pertain to relationships, familiar enough ground for a twenty-something songwriter. But Malhas's songs are both deeply felt and full of fresh images. A song about a lingering attraction ends unexpectedly with "Some words are only meant to be sung." Some come from the downside of love, and Malhas has an unusual knack for using elemental nature images with emotional resonances ("I crumble like salt, and you sink like a stone"). She writes long verses that show evidence of a good deal of work done to bend emotion to a metrical scheme. A few of her songs have ambitious, dark lyrics that can be read in multiple ways.

I've seen Malhas twice, and both times I've been impressed by her stage presence and her way of responding to the distinctiveness of the occasion. At Hollerfest last summer she performed in the shadowy log cabin, accompanying herself on piano and joined by only a single cellist. The effect was haunting. Amid the bustle of Noel Night in Detroit last winter, she appeared with her delightfully named new band, the Overthinkers, and passed out instant cameras to the audience, asking them to take pictures of her or each other and then return the cameras.

The Overthinkers will be appearing with Malhas at the Ark on May 31 (see Nightspots), when she releases her new album. I've heard some rough drafts from it, and she seems to be going in the direction of writing band-based hooks that stick in your head.

—James M. Manheim

dances to recorded music. *7–10 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5 (students, $3). 995–0011.*

"Arsenic and Old Lace": Explorers Drama Club. See 24 Thursday. 2 & 7 p.m.

"PhoenixPhest!": Phoenix Ensemble. A chamber concert featuring members of this polished local ensemble and faculty from PhoenixPhest!, a 3-day workshop for youth musicians. Workshop students perform a concert May 27 at 3 p.m. at EMU's Alexander Recital Hall (Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti). *7:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $25 general admission; Suzuki workshop participants, $10. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

English and American Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Iowa caller Nikki Herbst calls high-energy contras, squares, contra-friendly English dances, and couple dances to live music by Debbie Jackson, Brad Battey, and Susie Lorand. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a beginner lesson. Herbst also leads an **advanced contra** session today (1:30–4:30 p.m.; $10; students, $5) with live music TBA. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10 (students, $5). (248) 288–4737.*

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Odd Couple": Emergent Arts Theatre Company. See 24 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Gary Conrad: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 24 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

27 SUNDAY

★**Dan Rice Memorial Regatta: U-M Sailing Club.** All invited to watch club members race their zippy JY15 dinghies around Baseline Lake in a regatta dedicated to the club's late longtime sailing instructor. *10 a.m., Baseline Lake, 8010 Strawberry Lake Rd., left from Mast off North Territorial. Free. 426–4299.*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Robinsongs for Kids director Robin Robinson presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–5763.*

★**28th Annual Memorial Day Observance: Arborcrest Memorial Park.** Tribute featuring remarks by congressman **John Dingell** and other speakers TBA. Attendees include local veteran associations, Boy Scout troops, and others. Also, a bugle salute. Rain or shine. Limited seating; bring a chair or blanket to sit on. *2 p.m., Arborcrest Memorial Park, 2521 Glazier Way (behind the VA hospital, ¼ mile west of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 761–4572.*

★**"Recent Acquisitions: Curator's Choice, Part II": UMMA.** Docent-led tour of this exhibit of Asian art that includes historic and modern ceramics, woodwork, and basketry. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Red": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Odd Couple": Emergent Arts Theatre Company. See 24 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 3 p.m.

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 6 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

"The Tempest Project": New Theatre Project. See 8 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

28 MONDAY (MEMORIAL DAY)

★**Memorial Day Parade: Glacier Area Home Owners Association.** Ann Arbor's oldest neighborhood parade—and the best one in the area for young kids and their families—is a 6-block jaunt that features members of the Huron High School drumline and Girl and Boy Scout troops. Also (tentatively), a police car and a fire truck. Kids invited to decorate their bikes and join in at the end of the parade. Followed by a brief memorial service in Glacier Highlands Park and a chance for kids to play at the playground. *10 a.m., Frederick to Middleton to Bardstown to Windemere to Barrister. Free. a2gaha.org.*

29 TUESDAY

★**"From Tiny to Mighty: The History, Uses, and Cultural Relevance of the Strawberry": Ann Arbor District Library/Ecology By Design Strawberry Week.** Talk by Ecology by Design owner William Kirst. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

30 WEDNESDAY

Ice Cream Social: Angell Elementary School. Washtenaw Dairy ice cream, Pizza House pizza, cotton candy, lemonade, a cakewalk, bounce houses, tug of war, and other games. *6–8 p.m., Angell, 1608 South University. Free admission (nominal charge for food and games). 994–1907.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

31 THURSDAY

"How to Farm a Strawberry": Ecology by Design Strawberry Week. Local organic farmers Richard Andres and Deb Lentz lead a tour of their strawberry fields. *7–9 p.m., Tantre Farm, 2510 Hayes Rd., Chelsea. Free. Space limited; preregistration required at a2ecology.com/strawberryweek. 972–4798.*

"Nunsense": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 17 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★**"The Blessed Virgin Mary": Theology on Tap–Southeastern Michigan.** Talk by Old St. Patrick's Catholic Church pastor Father Gerald Gawronski. Q&A. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's Celtic Room, 318 S. Main. Free. 707–1797.*

"Proof": Redbud Productions. *May 31–June 3.* Loretta Grimes directs local actors in David Auburn's knowing, compassionate Pulitzer Prize–winning drama about a young woman whose life is brought to a crisis by the death of her father, a brilliant mathematician who had crossed the thin line from genius to insanity several years earlier. His daughter must come to grips with her fear that his mathematical genius, which she has inherited, comes with a dreadful price. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tiuckets $18 (students & seniors, $15). 663–7167.*

"White Buffalo": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

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F=Female	ND=Nondrinker
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Women Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Bright, slim, caring **SWPF** ISO true gentleman for friendship, maybe more. RSVP soon. 5786

Cute, fit, girl teddy bear ISO LTR with boy teddy bear 45+. For dancing to the Blues, cassoulet by the fire, more. 5794

Female, 50, looking for someone to hang out with. I'm a smoker and occasional drinker. 5809

Men Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Deaf male, **SW**, wife died. Looking for good woman, 39–49, who likes movies, walks, Thanksgiving, and family good times. 5803

Ready for love, SWM, 41, in search of special lady. 5808

SWM, 5'11", is an expert on film, music of the 50s & 60s, and American history. ISO intelligent SWF, who loves the arts and sports. I also enjoy tennis and long walks. 5805

General Personals

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 10.

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June 3, Horseback Riding, Maybury Stable
June 15, Dominick's
Visit **a2skiclub.org!**

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Miscellaneous

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I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 87? If you can, you could win a $25 gift certificate to spend at an Ann Arbor Observer advertiser of your choice. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, April 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).

Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 10.

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The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 10.

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GRASS LAKE – Spectacular 98.5-acre estate featuring gorgeous grounds, horse setup, ponds, and custom-built home. This is a truly one-of-a-kind property perfect for the outdoor enthusiast. Land includes large pond, pasture area, woods, and some farm land. Home includes 5-bedroom, 3-bath, two ½-bath, grand proportions, indoor pool, and shooting range. $1,599,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This stunning home was custom-built for the 2008 Showcase of Homes Tour. You will be impressed by quality of materials and craftsmanship. This home rests on 7 ½ peaceful acres that includes a scenic pond, covered bridge, in-ground pool, and 60' x 100' barn. Interior features include two-story great room, chef's kitchen, luxury first-floor master suite, sunroom, den, and incredible finished basement. $1,275,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home is one of the finest custom-built homes you will ever see. Incredible craftsmanship. Nestled on a wooded 2.4 acre lot. Extensive landscaping, patio, and putting green. Home has every amenity including a two-story great room, sunroom, dream kitchen, luxury bath, and the ultimate finished basement. $1,195,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Very special 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom-built, builder's own home backing to Polo Fields golf course. Gorgeous brick and stone exterior, extensive landscaping, and the finest covered patio with outdoor kitchen you will see. Interior is top-of-the-line in every way. Custom kitchen, extensive moldings, high ceilings, and luxury amenities in every room of the home. $1,050,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – THE WATERWAYS – Incredible 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home on one of the most private lots in the sub. Great backyard, extensive landscaping, and mature trees. Home has been redone throughout and includes maple kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliance, open family room, two-story living room, first-floor master suite, bonus room, and the nicest finished basement you will see. $534,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – STONEBRIDGE – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built home overlooks a stream and wooded common area. Perfect exterior includes mature landscaping, large deck, and screened porch. The interior includes hardwood floors throughout, great room with fireplace, oversized kitchen with granite counters, first-floor master suite, and finished basement has view out windows, large rec space, bedroom, and bath. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BURNS PARK – This nicely updated 3-bedroom, 1 ½-bath brick colonial has Burns Park as it's front yard. Stately home with great backyard, large patio, offering nice privacy. The interior is loaded with charm and character including all hardwood floors, maple kitchen, large living room with built-ins, formal dining, large master bedroom, and remodeled baths. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WATERWAYS – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on one of the best lots in the neighborhood. Enjoy this quiet cul-de-sac setting backing to wooded common area. Home is spectacular with perfect décor throughout and features 2-story family room, open kitchen with granite, luxury first-floor master suite, great kids bedrooms, bonus room, and finished basement. You will love it! $525,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BRIARHILL – Completely updated 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home located deep within the neighborhood. Great lot with large backyard, paver patio, and extensive landscaping. The interior has everything you've been hoping for including two-story family room with stone fireplace, maple kitchen with granite, den, formal living room and dining room, luxury master suite, and full basement with full kitchen and two rec rooms. $479,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – YORK PLACE – Perfect 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Saline's most popular subs. Great setting with one of the largest backyards you will find, extensive landscaping, and paver patio. The interior is a showpiece and features two-story great room, den, maple kitchen with granite counter tops, great master suite with vaulted ceiling, and nice-sized kids' rooms. Great home! $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Very nice 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home on 10 gorgeous acres including woods, stream, open grassy area, and barn. Enjoy your summer from the 4 level deck, pool, and screened porch. Home is spacious and includes large living room, formal dining, open kitchen, multiple family rooms, the brightest master suite you'll find, and finished basement. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

Market Update – April 2012.

The 2012 spring market is upon us. My listings are getting maximum response at this time of year, and the response has been overwhelming at times. Many sales are characterized by three things: 1. Lots of showings, 2. Multiple offers, and 3. Higher sales prices than we've seen in years. The strong local economy and low interest have buyers out looking.

My results set a benchmark for individual agents working in the greater Ann Arbor Market Area. If you are considering Buying or Selling my experience, results, and professional approach speak for themselves:

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Over $600 million in career sales volume

SELLERS – My listings continue to receive the maximum exposure possible both in print advertising and on the Internet. Please look and compare. My marketing program works, see all the SOLD banners.

BUYERS – My buyers, personally represented by me, have been successful in finding some of the BEST homes and the BEST prices in our market. The issues of financing, short sales, and bank owned homes is more complicated than ever. It makes sense to be represented by a proven professional.

Call or Email today for a no-obligation private consultation. 734-476-7100 or Matt@ISellAnnArbor.com

NEW LISTING – SALINE - This stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath, two ½-bath former builder's model home is completely loaded inside and out with quality features and upgrades. This home lives great and features two-story foyer and family room, kitchen with 11' ceilings, cherry cabinets, and granite counters, den, oversized trim and moldings, luxury master suite, and finished walk-out basement. $469,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

UPLAND HILLS – CHELSEA – This stunning, custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere. Quiet cul-de-sac lot backs to 20-acre nature preserve. Enjoy panoramic views of nature, ponds, and trees. Interior is sharp and features great room with 12' ceilings, large kitchen with hearth area, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial on 5 gorgeous acres just minutes from downtown Chelsea. Incredible setting features wooded views, large pond, huge deck, and small outbuilding. Home is in top-shape and features all hardwood floors, large living room, family room with fireplace, kitchen with granite counters, and great master suite. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA – Charming early century 3-bedroom, 1-bath farmhouse on 10 peaceful acres on the east side Chelsea. Quick access to I-94. Property is gorgeous and has a great dedicated horse barn and fenced pasture. Home is loaded with old world charm with wood floors, oversized molding, large living room with fireplace, country kitchen, and family room. $234,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR – Very sharp 3-bedroom, 1-bath home walking distance to downtown Ann Arbor. This nicely cared for turn-of-the-century home is loaded with charm and character. Great curb appeal and huge backyard. Interior features hardwood floors throughout, spacious rooms, and nice master. You will love it. $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE CAPE – Classic 4-bedroom, 1-bath cape on a quiet west side Ann Arbor neighborhood-- an easy walk to downtown. This home is highlighted by the newer maple kitchen with Corian counter tops. Other features include hardwood floors, coved ceilings, large living room, and generous bedrooms. Two car garage and great backyard $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NORTHVIEW – Move-in condition 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. Great location on a quiet street deep within the sub. Lot features large backyard, nice deck, and great landscaping. The interior is spacious and includes open kitchen, flex use sitting/family room, large living room, great master suite, and nice sized kids bedrooms. $199,900 **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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NE ANN ARBOR - Incredible 32-acre estate property just minutes to Ann Arbor, U-M, and hospitals. This property is breathtaking. This custom-built home rests in the heart of mature forest. Enjoy complete privacy and harmony with nature with the convenience of a premier location. The 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features soaring ceilings, walls of glass, and extensive upgrades. $995,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – STONEBRIDGE – This is one of the finest homes you will find. Incredible 5-bedroom, 4-bath, two ½-bath, custom-built home on a premier wooded setting backing to a gorgeous stream. Including two-story family room with wall of glass, gourmet kitchen, sunroom, den, dream master suite, and finished walkout basement with rec space, bar, and home theater. $819,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MATTHAEI FARM – This stunning 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on a 2.6 acre natural oasis in an Ann Arbor loved neighborhood. Incredible grounds feature ample plantings, mature trees, and complete privacy. Featuring living room with vaulted ceiling, cherry kitchen, open family room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $769,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BURNS PARK – Rare Find!! Five year 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home just one block from Burns Park Elementary. Home has all the current dream upgrades. Great design features cherry kitchen with granite, family room with fireplace, den, luxury master suite, and unique third floor flexible use space. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – STONEBRIDGE – Perfect 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built home with panoramic views of the #10 and #1 fairways. This is one of the most picturesque golf settings you will find. Home is perfect with extensive landscaping, 2 decks, two-story great room, maple kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished basement. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

COUNTRY ESTATE –This dramatic 3-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built ranch rests on 3-plus wooded acres just 10 minutes from Ann Arbor. Features include attractive stone accented exterior, screened porch, large deck, custom cherry kitchen, open family room with fireplace, raised ceiling throughout, finished walkout basement with multi-use recreation space, and Geo-thermal heat and a/c (very low energy cost). $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA SCHOOLS – Incredible 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on Crooked Lake. Enjoy incredible panoramic views of this peaceful lake with an abundance of wild-life, boating and swimming available. Home is gorgeous and features all maple floors and trim, great room with views of the lake, open kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $499,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BARTON HILLS –Experience an incredible setting in Ann Arbor's most exclusive neighborhood. This 3 ½-acre wooded parcel features rolling land, great privacy, and ample wildlife. Home is a mid-century contemporary with great architectural significance but in need of major updating. Two-bedroom, 2-bath, home with very large great room, nice master suite, and tons of windows. $489,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Very sharp 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom-built home on a spacious acre plus lot in one of the most desired subs in the Saline Schools. Great exterior, with extensive landscaping, large deck, and circle drive. The interior features two-story family room, open kitchen with maple cabinets, den, nice master suite, and finished walkout basement with recreation room, bedroom, and bath. $459,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SAGINAW HILLS – Striking 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath water front home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Enjoy peaceful pond views from the oversized deck on this beautiful one-acre lot. Home has a nice contemporary flair and features an open kitchen and family room with water views, living room with vaulted ceiling, master suite with walk-in closet and luxury bath, and finished basement. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YORK WOODS – Stately 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on a quiet 1.3-acre lot located deep within one of Saline's most desired subs. Enjoy the spacious yard from the large deck or charming front porch. Features great kitchen with granite counters, oversized family room with vaulted ceiling, formal living room and dining room, first-floor den, luxury master suite with one of the largest baths you'll see, and great kids bedrooms. $424,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SANDPIPER COVE – Striking 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath custom built colonial on a gorgeous acre lot backing to a mature tree line. This home presents like a model home. Incredible grounds with beautiful plantings, two-tier deck, and shady backyard. Interior features maple kitchen with granite counters, open family room with built-ins, oversized master suite with sitting room and exercise area, and great kids' bedrooms. $420,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LOHR LAKE – This gracious 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial rest on a quiet lot, deep within the neighborhood, backing to common area and ponds. Great ¾-acre lot with large deck, great backyard, and paver patio. The interior is sharp and features open kitchen with granite counters, large family room with fireplace, formal living room and dining room, first-floor den, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $389,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Very nice 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home on a spacious acre-plus lot in one of Saline's most popular neighborhoods. Great setting with extensive landscaping, patio, and thick privacy foliage. The interior of this home sparkles, and is highlighted by the cherry kitchen with upgraded appliances, open family room, unique mid-level den, nice master suite, and finished basement. $369,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ARBOR CREEK – Stunning 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home in perfect move-in condition on a quiet cul-de-sac lot backing to common area. Great exterior with large yard, extensive landscaping, deck, and patio. The interior is flawless and includes living room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen with cherry cabinets, large family room, and great master suite. $339,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – GRASS LAKE – Custom-built 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath ranch on spacious acre lot overlooking the gorgeous country side. Wonderful open floor plan features great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, maple kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement with large rec room, bar, two bedrooms, and a bath. $325,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½ -bath colonial on 6+ peaceful, wooded acres just outside the village. Incredible setting features total privacy, ample wildlife, nature trails, large backyard, and out building. Home is special and includes large great room fireplace, three-season sunroom, open kitchen, nice master suite, and partially finished walkout basement. $289,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE - Oversized 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath ranch on a private 2.75 acre lot just minutes to downtown Saline and US-23. Wonderful setting features mature trees, extensive landscaping, and in-ground pool. Interior is spacious and features sunken living room with fireplace, oversized family room with room for game table and TV area, open kitchen, nice master suite, and lots of storage. $287,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – MANCHESTER – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 3-bath ranch on 11 pastoral acres was constructed to the highest standards of energy conservation and indoor air quality. Perfect country home just minutes to I-94. Features include spacious living room, maple kitchen with great eat-in area, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows includes large rec room and bath. $259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – DICKEN – Perfectly maintained 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath brick ranch on a beautiful tree lined street in one of Ann Arbor's most desired locations. Great setting includes large yard, mature trees, and great landscaping. Interior features spacious rooms with large living room, formal dining, nice kitchen, and flex-use third bedroom/den. $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Incredible 3-bedroom, 3 ½-bath condo walking distance to downtown Saline. The best unit on the market which features hardwood floors, a fireplace, open kitchen with Corian countertops, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling, two additional bedrooms upstairs, and a full finished basement with multi-use rec space and bath. $184,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LINCOLN SCHOOLS – This 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath colonial is the nicest in Greene Farms. Great setting backing to common area. Exterior features large deck and great landscaping. Home features open kitchen, family room with fireplace, great master suite with vaulted ceiling, large bath, and walk-in closet. $154,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI – Striking ranch on a very quiet street just a short walk to Depot Town. Wonderful fenced backyard with large deck and screened porch. The home has many updates and improvements including open kitchen with granite counter tops, large living room, and spacious bedrooms. $139,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP – Remarkable 2-bedroom, 1-bath ranch at a remarkable price on 2+ acres of land just minutes from US-23. Incredible property with treed privacy on 3 sides. Home has many updates including newer roof, windows, furnace, septic, and is ready for your interior touches. Oversized great room with fireplace, vaulted ceiling, spacious kitchen, full basement, and updated bath. $99,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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Ann Arbor Stunning, contemporary 2 bedroom, 3.5 bath urban condo is minutes to downtown, Plum Market, parks, schools and major freeways. Finished lower level. Small, private community. $450,000. Barbara Eichmuller 734-645-9054, 734-669-5882. #3202309

N.E. Ann Arbor Simply elegant! Custom brick home. Main level master, grand 2-story great room, 2 fireplaces, top-notch details and finishes. 3-car garage. Private cul-de-sac, 2 acres. $529,000. Alice Roderick 734-646-0797, 734-669-5842. #3107751

Ann Arbor Hills Wonderful 4 bedroom colonial on beautiful 1/2 acre. Newer kitchen with island, vaulted ceiling with skylights, spacious master suite, study and laundry on second floor, deck. $649,900. Rick Jarzembowski 734-645-3634, 734-669-5931. #3202354

Green Oak Township Lakefront custom home on private 1.5 acre lake. 4 bedrooms, 4,132 sq. ft., open floor plan with spectacular water views through walls of windows. Enjoy swimming, fishing, and boating. $699,000. Terri Spiteri 734-604-6464, 734-669-5973. #3202507

NE Ann Arbor Striking, incredible, contemporary home on private wooded setting. Loads of windows and wonderful details. 4 bedrooms, family friendly floor plan, walkout lower level, deck. $795,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #3201921

Ann Arbor Hills Stately, renovated, stone and brick 4 bedroom, 3.2 bath. 4,174 sq. ft., formal dining room, game room with mahogany details, slate roof, beautiful patios and gardens. $995,000. Lisa Stelter 734-645-7909, 734-669-5959. #3201484

King School Stunning Metcalf contemporary exudes quality and style. 2,978 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, lots of built-ins, 2-story atriums, passive solar heating, huge master. Wooded lot. $495,000. Susan Martin 734-645-7219, 734-669-5958. #3202142

Huron River Light-filled 4 bedroom with main floor master, spacious kitchen, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, walkout lower level. Multi-level koi pond, short walk from the Arb. Enjoy nature! $590,000. Fran Jones 734-994-6505, 734-669-5925. #3202333

Saddle Creek Sub Gorgeous! Builder's own home with top-end amenities and upgrades. 1st floor master, 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, study with fireplace, finished lower level. Minutes from Ann Arbor. $639,000. Julie Picknell 734-395-8383, 734-669-4536. #3201254

Dexter Dream home with custom design and luxurious amenities! Brazilian cherry floors, sunroom, gourmet cherry/granite kitchen that leads to glass paneled deck overlooking pond. $699,900. Rob Ewing 734-216-5955, 734-669-6834. #3200343

Cavanaugh Lake Farms Exceptional brick ranch on 2.4 acres in popular sub. Perfect for entertaining! 6 bedrooms, 3 suites, 4.5 baths, 2 kitchens, 2 huge great rooms, 4-season room, walkout, deck. $799,900. Jan Cooper 734-395-2744, 734-433-2191. #3201899

Ann Arbor Hills Classic, timeless colonial is charming, yet up-to-date. Fabulous living room with brick fireplace, crown moldings, and hardwood floors. Banquet sized dining room. Located at the end of a cul-de-sac. $1,200,000. Fran Jones 734-994-6505, 734-669-5925. #3108666

Ann Arbor Hills Classic 3-story, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath perched on a hilltop with great views! Family room with many windows, beautiful woodwork and hardwood floors. Partially finished walkout. New roof. $499,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #3202332

Scio Township Extraordinary 3.3 acre private retreat on lake, minutes to downtown Ann Arbor. Fully remodeled with no expense spared. Stainless kitchen, master with dream bath, composite decks. $625,000. Maria Gilbert 734-730-9346, 734-669-5812. #3107435

Scio Township Light-filled and airy, 2-story, custom contemporary home in small neighborhood of fine homes off of Huron River Drive. New deluxe kitchen, 1st floor master, hardwood floors. $695,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040, 734-669-6830. #3201245

Dexter Elegant, custom built home with superior materials, finishes, and amenities. Open plan, library, master suite, sunroom, finished lower level. 3-car garage, multi-level deck. $725,000. Brian Hill 734-904-9185, 734-669-5833. #3201870

Newport Hills Superior craftsmanship and masterful details throughout this Newport Hills home built by Christian Tennant. Wood floors, expansive great room, bonus room. Park-like backyard. $875,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040, 734-669-6830. #3201592

Wines School Award winning "Contemporary Farmhouse". Picturesque collection of farm buildings, this bright home has a living wing and sleeping wing linked by a walking gallery. Walled garden. $1,850,000. Carolyn Lepard 734-417-2900, 734-669-6808. #3201492

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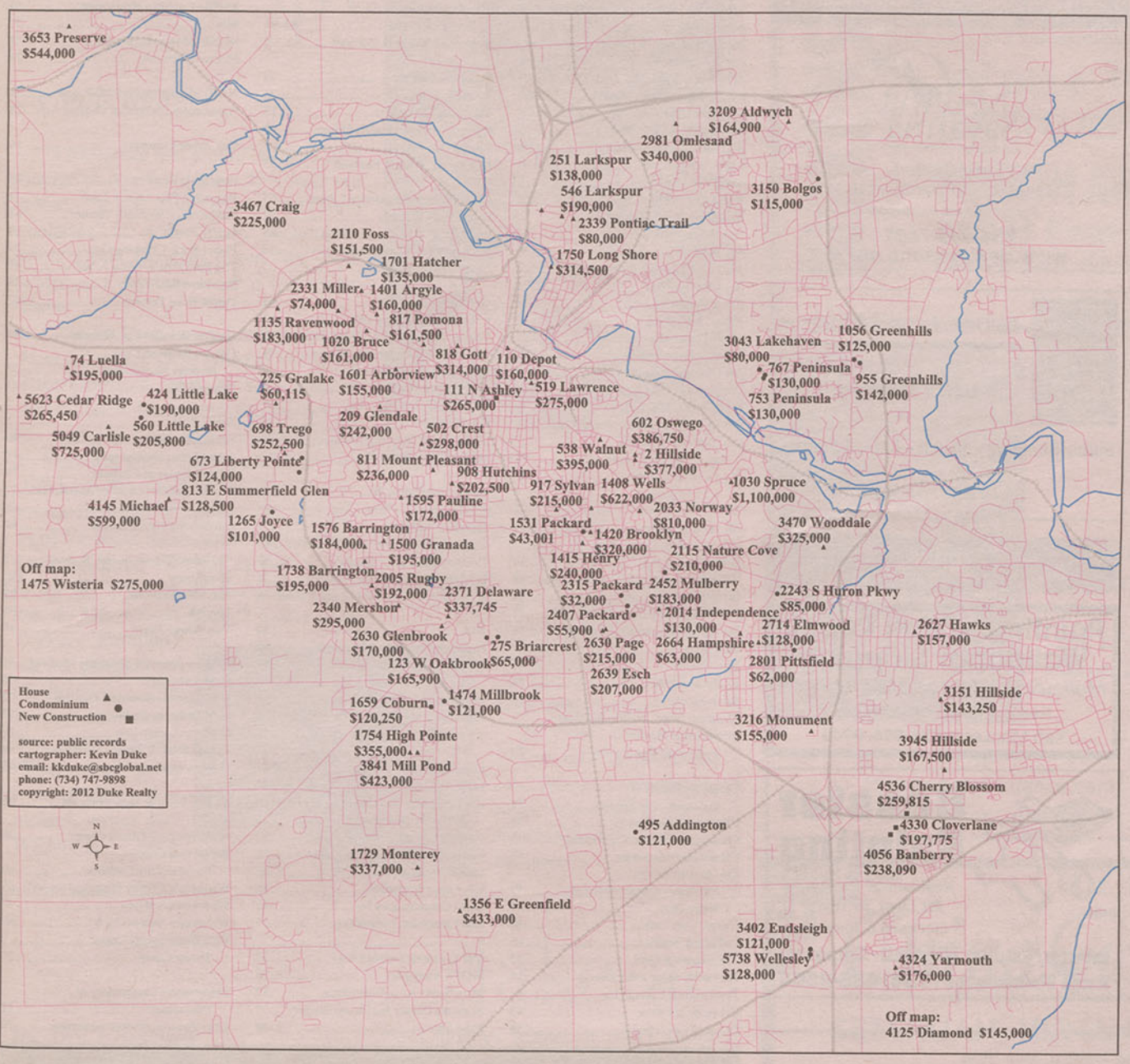
MARCH 2012 HOME SALES



Condo sales in the Ann Arbor School District picked up speed during the first quarter of 2012. We counted eighty-one sales, which outpaces every year we've compared since 2003—including 2003. The spike wasn't accompanied by radical price changes: the median selling price of a condo dipped just $1,000 from last year, to $124,000. The market for condos is drawing strength elsewhere.

Perhaps an increase in foreclosures is juicing condo sales? Not in the City of Ann Arbor, where public records indicate that 19 percent of the condo sales in the first quarter were sales of foreclosures by lenders. This matches the percentage in the first quarters of 2011 and 2010 (see May 2011 AAO), so foreclosures don't explain the surge in sales.

ANN ARBOR MORTGAGES	#
Chase	29
Bank of Ann Arbor	26
United Bank & Trust	15
Gold Star	13
Member First	13
Wells Fargo	13
Bank of America	12
PNC	12
Huron Valley Financial	10
Quicken	10
Ann Arbor State Bank	9
Citizens Bank (RBS)	9
Cole Taylor Bank	9
Citi	7
US Bank	7
Fifth Third Bank	6
KeyBank	5
Provident	5
Ross Mortgage	5
University Bank	5
U-M Credit Union	5

Perhaps part of the reason is the availability of attractive home loans?

The following snapshot survey of public records offers insight into the sources of money for home purchases and refinancing in the month of February. Combining all home mortgages, including single-family homes and condos, the adjacent table lists the number of mortgages that lenders provided in February inside the city limits (including a small handful of commercial mortgages). The twenty-one lenders listed accounted for 80 percent of the 282 mortgages recorded that month. Who's borrowing the money? Since only sixty-six home purchases were recorded during that time period, one is left to conclude that three out of four borrowers were refinancing or adding second mortgages.

The list is a who's who of lenders—as well as a guide to who's new. The first three are familiar names: Chase is at the top with twenty-nine mortgages; Bank of Ann Arbor finished a close second with twenty-six, while United Bank and Trust ranks third with fifteen. Then come three lenders tied with thirteen loans apiece: Gold Star, Member First, and Wells Fargo.

Wells Fargo is Chase's toughest competitor nationwide, according to a recent (April 14) report in the *Wall Street Journal.* Less familiar names tied Wells Fargo locally. Hotshot Gold Star has been a busy mortgage broker for years—flying below most people's radar. Here the company reveals itself as a busy mortgage-maker to be reckoned with. Then comes Member First, which appears a stranger until its spokesperson in Grand Rapids links the loans to the U-M Credit Union conduit. Though most Member First loans "are from U-M Credit Union ... they're *our* mortgages," Jamie Wiersma says. Accordingly, the table lists Member First separately from their kith and kin at the U-M Credit Union. The credit union is given credit at the far end of the list for the five mortgages it wrote in its own name.

—Kevin Duke

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Back Page

i spy

by Sally Bjork

Aka: Big Ten

"I recognize that tooth!" writes Linda Sattler of April's feature. "It's near our house." "It was quite clever as they were sculpting" it, adds Cherry Westerman, while Linda Barnhart found "the tooth sculpture a mystery … as it was taking shape."

"The sculptor is my brother and my dentist," writes Orin Brustad about Dr. Robert Brustad, who, in 2006, stopped tree trimmers from removing the box elder stump in front of his offices at 1111 E. Stadium, and started sketching. "We still have the original drawing," comments Brustad. "I worked on [the design] for about six months." Enter "Dr." Emil Szkipala. "The Dr. in Emil's title is for his OB.CM degree (Obste-tree-trix & The Chisel Man)," writes Judi Taylor. Equipped with a plethora of chainsaws, "he finished in about a day," says Brustad. "That's a great looking totem of a molar," writes Jud Williams, "with a witty accompanying sign: M-Plant"; perfect for a prosthodontist.

M-Plant generated a record seventy-seven entries in April. "It's quite a landmark," notes Ellen Willson.

Pamela Kittel won our random drawing. She will enjoy her $25 gift certificate at the Blue Tractor.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above to identify the scene, then follow the instructions at the bottom of the page.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We're changing the rules on you, Fake Adders.

Many years ago, we decided to use the Fake Ad contest to promote the Observer's website, arborweb.com. By using "Arborweb" as the secret word in every Fake Ad, we reasoned, we would raise awareness of the website. Well, now we'd like to tell you that Arborweb is now the second-most-visited site on the Internet, right after Facebook!

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We'd like to tell you that, but it isn't true. In fact, the Observer is beginning to use the URL annarborobserver.com, so we're changing our monthly Fake Ad hint.

Beginning this month, the Fake Ad secret word will be the name of the previous month's winner. It won't always be the winner's full name, but some part of the name will be there in one form or another.

Last month's winner, drawn from 163 entries correctly identifying the Fake Ad for Cydefex (page 70 of the April issue), was Janet Hohmann-Lamb. So this month's Fake Ad contains at least part of her name, and this time we've made it pretty easy for you to find. It won't always be so easy.

The prize is still a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue. Hohmann-Lamb is taking hers to Downtown Home & Garden.

Good luck with the new rules!

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below.

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax: 769–3375. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on May 10 will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

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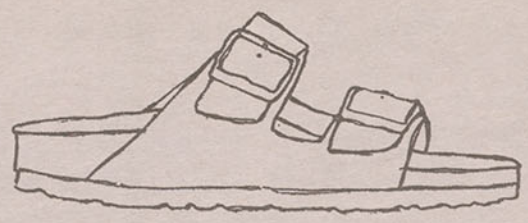

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Events at a Glance

Daily ***Events*** *listings begin on p.* ***55.*** ***Films:*** *p.* ***65.*** ***Galleries:*** *p.* ***61.*** ***Nightspots*** *begin on p.* ***52.***

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Ann Arbor Youth Chorale, May 5
- One Voice Gospel Choir, May 5
- Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival, May 6 & 13
- Cambridge Piano Quartet, May 7
- Measure for Measure men's chorus, May 8
- Boychoir of Ann Arbor, May 12
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, May 13
- Out Loud Chorus, May 18
- Vocal Arts Ensemble, May 19
- Tubaist William Pemberton & pianist Catherine McMichael, May 20
- Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, May 20
- Phoenix Ensemble, May 26

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See ***Nightspots,*** *p. 52, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs*

- Don White (singer-songwriter), May 4 & 5
- Etienne Charles Quintet (jazz), May 4
- Ellen Rowe Trio (jazz), May 13
- Marcus & Joan Belgrave Jazz Ensemble, May 17
- Matt Watroba (folk), May 11
- Dave Sharp & the Secret Seven (jazz), May 11
- Dave Boutette (singer-songwriter), May 18
- Dobbins-KraŸke-Weed Trio (jazz), May 18
- The Juanito Pascual Trio (flamenco), May 22
- Bonnie Raitt (blues songstress), May 25

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- Rebroadcast of *La Traviata* (Metropolitan Opera), May 2 & 3
- *White Buffalo* (Purple Rose Theatre), every Wed.–Sat.
- *Red* (Performance Network), every Thurs.–Sun.
- *Leaving Iowa* (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre), May 3–6
- *Fools* (Huron High Players), May 4 & 5
- *West Side Story* (Pioneer High Theatre Guild), May 4–6
- *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Skyline High), May 4 & 5
- *The Dreamer* (People Dancing), May 4 & 5
- *The Tempest Project* (New Theatre Project), May 8, 9, 11–13, 18–20, & 25–27
- *Just Desserts: One Acts, Shorts, & Skits* (Community High Ensemble Theater), May 11 & 12
- *Macbeth* (St. Augustine's Campion Players), May 11–13
- *Wuthering Heights* (Young Actors Guild), May 11–13
- *Nunsense* (Encore Musical Theatre), May 17–20, 24–27, & 31
- *The King and I* (Young People's Theater), May 18–20
- *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Explorers Drama Club), May 24–26
- *The Odd Couple* (Emergent Arts Theatre), May 24
- *Proof* (Redbud Productions), May 31

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic Nick Gaza, May 3
- Comic Maria Bamford, May 10–12
- The Moth StorySLAM, May 15

Highly regarded comic Maria Bamford is at the Comedy Showcase May 10–12.

- Comic Danny Browning, May 18 & 19
- Comic Gary Conrad, May 24–26

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Jewish Film Festival, May 1–3
- St. Andrew's Church of Christ Quilt Show, May 5
- Braun & Helmer Farm Festival, May 5
- Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Festival, May 5
- Ypsilanti Street Rods Car Show, May 6
- Water Hill Music Fest, May 6
- Neutral Zone teen center "Breakin' Curfew," May 11
- Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers Cat Show, May 12
- Varsity Ford Car Show, May 19
- Zen Buddhist Temple Buddha's Birthday, May 19 & 20
- Michigan Vintage Volkswagen Club Festival, May 20
- Antiquarian Book Fair, May 20
- Ann Arbor City Club Classic Car Show, May 26
- Memorial Day Parade, May 28

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Baseball star Jim Abbott, May 1
- Novelist Ann Pearlman, May 10
- Astronomer Terence Dickinson, May 24

Miscellaneous

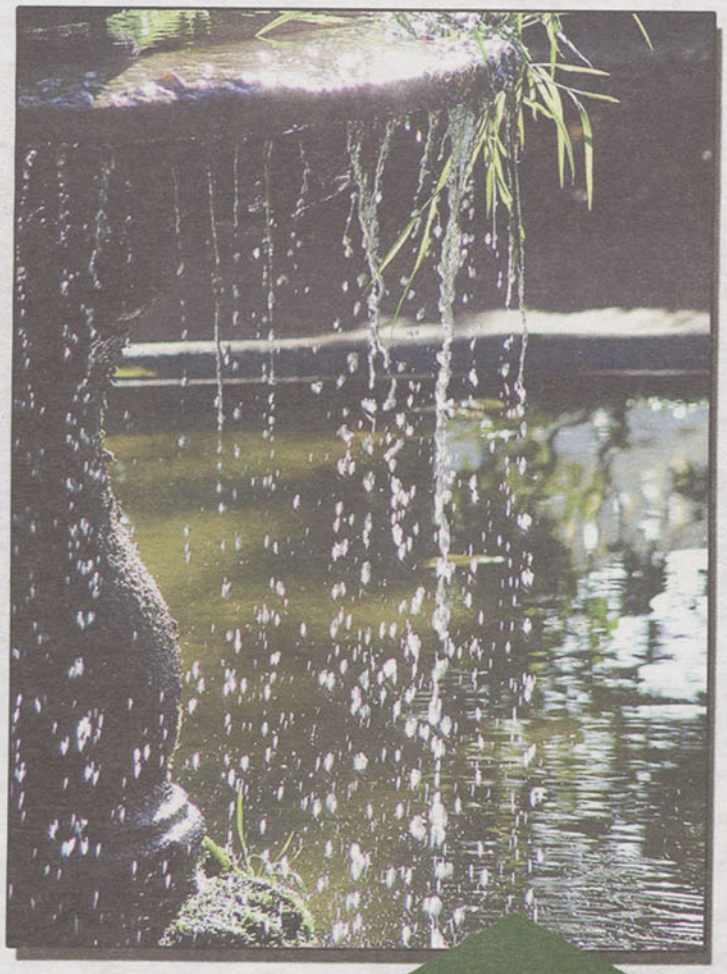
- Burns Park Run, May 6
- For Women Only Run, May 13
- Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club Springtime Invitational, May 17–20

Family & Kids' Stuff

- *The Cricket in Times Square* (Wild Swan Theater), May 3–6
- Mister Laurence Experience kids concert, May 6
- *Nate the Great* (Theatreworks USA), May 6
- *The Phantom Tollbooth* (Junior Theater), May 17–20
- *Wolverine Will* (Performance Theatre Children's Theater), May 19
- Gemini family concert, May 20

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- U-M Life Sciences Orchestra, May 3



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